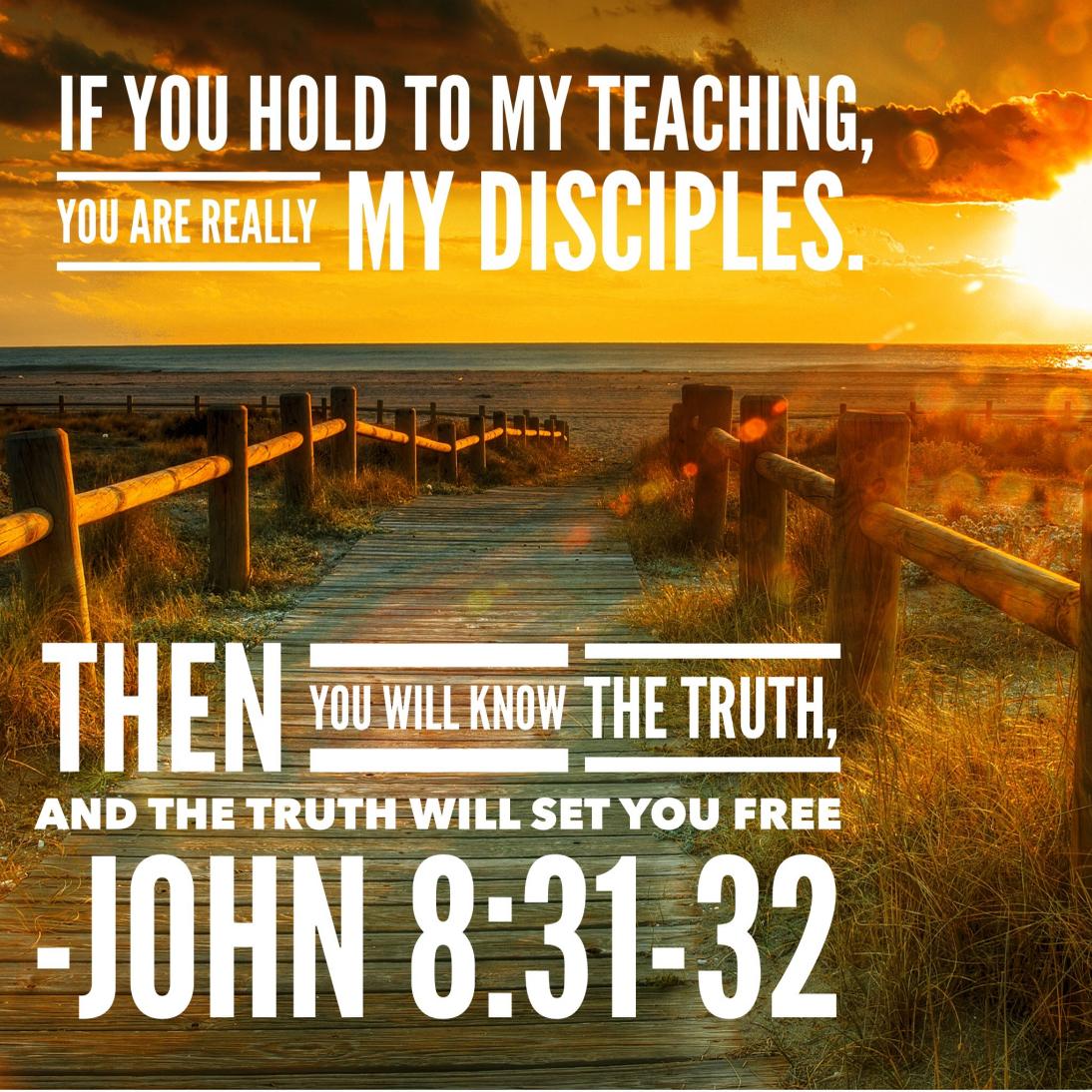


Immanuel Lutheran Church and School



IF YOU HOLD TO MY TEACHING,
YOU ARE REALLY MY DISCIPLES.

THEN YOU WILL KNOW THE TRUTH,
AND THE TRUTH WILL SET YOU FREE

-JOHN 8:31-32

February 22, 2026
First Sunday in Lent
9:30am

ATTENDANCE CARDS We invite all our worshipers, both members and guests, to fill out an attendance card from the pew rack in front of you and place it in the offering plate. Also, use the “Tell Us” cards to communicate to your congregational leaders whatever you want them to know. **You can also register on our app! Fill out the “Connect Card” located on the home page.**

WORSHIP AIDS If you have difficulty reading the print in the bulletin, there are large print bulletins available on the table by the side door of the church. Do you have difficulty hearing the spoken word? Aids for hearing are also available on the same table. Ask an usher to help you if you need assistance.

CELL PHONES Check in on social media using #immanuelriverside before silencing your cell phones.

FOR OUR LITTLE ONES For parents who have children under four years of age, we have a staffed nursery to assist you. If you have an infant, please feel free to use our Cry Room where you can still see and listen to the worship service.

NURSERY CARE The nursery is open for childcare during worship. Your children (6 weeks old - 5 years old) will be cared for by our trained staff for any or all of the service. You will need to read the Nursery Parent Information sheet and fill out a questionnaire before dropping off your children. Please see the Nursery Coordinator if you have any questions.

WE GATHER FOR THE JOURNEY

PRESERVICE MUSIC

The Law of God is Good and Wise

Michael Praetorius

PASTORAL WELCOME

Pastor Robert Jones

CALL TO WORSHIP

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

LSB 657



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, A sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might. We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land All threat'ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, No thanks to foes, who



to - rious; He breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod And wins sal -
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, Whom God Him -
your us, We trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; They can - not
fear it; For God Him - self fights by our side With weap - ons



va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe Has sworn to
self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be? The Lord of
o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage; In bat - tle
of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house, Goods, hon - or,



work us woe. With craft and dread - ful might He
hosts is He, Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord, God's
we'll en - gage. His might is doomed to fail; God's
child, or spouse, Though life be wrenched a - way, They



arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
can - not win the day. The King - dom's ours for - ev - er!

INVOCATION

P: The Lord our God, the Lord is one!

C: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

P: Return to the LORD your God, for He is gracious and merciful.

C: He is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

P: We begin in the name of our Triune God: in the name of the Father and of the (†)Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

P: As we learn how Jesus fulfills the Law on our behalf, we are also confronted with how we have fallen short of the glory of God. The Law, while good and holy, reveals that we have not lived according to it thus threatening that we would be cut off from God forever. However, because of His great love for us, God sends His only Son to take our sins and die in our place. Therefore, it is right that we both confess those sins of which we are aware and those of which we are unaware. Let us turn our hearts to God and repent this day, seeking God's mercy for the sake of Christ. *(please kneel)*

P: O Almighty God,

C: We confess that we have not loved You with all our heart, soul, and mind. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed by what we have done and by what we have failed to do. But we are heartily sorry for our sins and sincerely repent of them. For the sake of Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways all the days of our life. *(Silence is observed for silent, personal confession)*

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all of your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore announce this grace unto all of you: you are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the (†)Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen. *(please stand)*

SONG OF PRAISE

O Lord My Rock and My Redeemer

Nathan Stiff

D A G D G A

1.O Lord, my Rock and my Re-deem-er, great-est trea-sure of my long-ing soul, my
 (2.O) Lord, my Rock and my Re-deem-er, strong de-fend-er of my wea-ry heart, my
 (3.O) Lord, my Rock and my Re-deem-er, gra-cious Sav-ior of my ru-in-ed life, my

5 D A/C# Bm G A D

God, like You there is no oth - er. True de-light is found in You a - lone. Your
 sword to fight the cruel de - ceiv - er and my shield a-against his hate-ful darts, my
 guilt and cross laid on Your shoul-ders, in my place You suf-fered, bled, and died. You

9 G Bm A G Bm A

grace, a well too deep to fath - om, Your love ex - ceeds the heav-ens'__ reach; Your
 song when en - e - mies sur-round me, my hope when tides of sor-row__ rise, my
 rose, the grave and death are con - quered. You broke my bonds of sin and__shame. O

13 D A/C# Bm A G D/F# A/C# D A/C#

truth, a fount of per-fect wis-dom, my high-est good, and my un-end-ing need.
 joy when tri - als are a-bound-ing, Your faith-ful-ness, my re-fuge in the night.
 Lord, my Rock and my Re-deem-er, may all my days bring glo - ry to Your Name.

17 1, 2 G Asus 3. G D

2.O
 3.O

LISTEN TO HIS WORD!

(Please be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Gina Bertaina, D.C.E Intern

INTRODUCTION TO THE READINGS

As our Lenten church season begins, we will get to hear how Jesus is the fulfillment of the commandments. Today we hear that before the Law is given, it first begins with mercy and redemption. Our Psalm reveals the benevolent nature of God in dealing with sin as well as when Moses receives the moral law. Our Gospel shows that Jesus is the Redeemer who can set us free from our sin.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 32:1-7

L: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

C: **Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

L: For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

C: **For day and night your hand was heavy upon me. My strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.**

L: I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity.

C: **I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

L: Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found. Surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him.

C: **You are my hiding place, You preserve me from trouble, You surround me with shouts of deliverance.**

FIRST READING

Exodus 20:1-11

(After the reading)

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God**

(please stand)

GOSPEL READING

John 8:31-36

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the eighth chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(After the reading)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**



1 Je - sus, ref - uge of the wea - ry, Blest Re - deem - er,
 2 Do we pass that cross un - heed - ing, Breath - ing no re -
 3 Je - sus, may our hearts be burn - ing With more fer - vent



whom we love, Foun - tain in life's des - ert drea - ry, Sav - ior
 pen - tant vow, Though we see You wound - ed, bleed - ing, See Your
 love for You; May our eyes be ev - er turn - ing To be -



from the world a - bove: Of - ten have Your eyes, of - fend - ed,
 thorn - en - cir - cled brow? Yet Your sin - less death has brought us
 hold Your cross a - new Till in glo - ry, part - ed nev - er



Gazed up - on the sin - ner's fall; Yet up - on the
 Life e - ter - nal, peace, and rest; On - ly what Your
 From the bless - ed Sav - ior's side, Grav - en in our



cross ex - tend - ed, You have borne the pain of all.
 grace has taught us Calms the sin - ner's deep dis - tress.
 hearts for - ev - er, Dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - fied.

(please be seated)

MESSAGE

I Am: Redeemer

Pastor Robert Jones

SERMON NOTES:

RESPOND TO OUR REDEEMER

(please stand)

SONG OF RESPONSE

There Is A Redeemer

Words and Music by
Melody Green

VERSE

♩ = 92

D Dsus D Dsus D A D G A D A D Dsus D



1. There is a Re - deem - er Je - sus, God's own Son; Pre - cious Lamb of
2. Je sus, my Re - deem - er, name a - bove all names; Pre - cious Lamb of
3. When I stand in glo - ry, I will see His face; There I'll serve my

CHORUS

6 Dsus D Dsus D G G/B Asus A7 D D D/F# G D



God, Mes - si - ah, Ho - - - ly One. Thank You, O my Fa - ther, for
God, Mes - si - ah, O for sin - ners slain.
King for - ev - er in that ho - ly place.

11 G A D A7 D Dsus D Dsus D Dsus D G G/B Asus A7 D



giv - ing us Your Son, and leav - ing Your Spir - it till the work on earth is done.

APOSTLES' CREED

C: 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.

PRAYERS OF PRAISE AND PETITION

(After the petition)

P: Lord in your mercy

C: Hear our prayer

(please be seated)

OFFERING

IMMANUEL IN MINISTRY

DEDICATION OF GIFTS

4TH GRADE SPECIAL MUSIC God Himself is Present

arr. Paul Rosene
and E. Rodriguez

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: **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 and ever. Amen.**

BENEDICTION (Blessing)

Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

POSTLUDE

The Law Commands, and Makes Us Know R. Vaughan Williams



NEW LENT SERIES
JESUS AND THE 10
Looking at how Jesus fulfills
the Commandments
Sundays 9:30 AM
Wednesdays 6:00 PM

PRAYERS REQUESTED BY OUR WORSHIPERS

To submit a prayer request for the coming Sunday, please email or call the church office by Wednesday. We want to pray for specific needs; however, ask permission before disclosing another person's specific need, to ensure that we respect their privacy.

PRAYERS OF THANKS

- ✠ Graumann and Little families offer a prayer of thanks for all who made the Celebration of Rasmi's Life possible. We also give thanks for the beautiful Valentine's Day to spread her ashes in the ocean. But most of all we thank God for sharing Rasmi with us to make memories that will keep her light shining in our lives forever.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- ✠ Gina Bertaina requests prayers for her grandma Malo who has Alzheimer's
- ✠ The Mateljan family asks for prayers for Laura Neglia to continue to heal and recover.
- ✠ The Davies family asks for prayers for Micheal Zwingler who has stage 4 cancer and going through chemo and for Wyatt Moore who is in the army.
- ✠ Tinie Clark asks for prayers of comfort and healing for the Chambless family, their son Elijah who is 17, had medical emergency with his heart and discovered the need for a pace-maker, also their daughter is currently being treated for leukemia and is starting new Car T -Cell treatment that the insurance company is not covering.
- ✠ John Havrisik asks for prayers for continued healing for Rocky Ford recovering from a fall and wisdom and discernment about long term care. Also prayers for Joan Chochon, David Meyer and Peter Solerio for treatment of cancer.
- ✠ Suzie Pratts asks to please pray for her mom Dora, who is having trouble breathing due to a heart condition. She is currently waiting in a specialist appointment in March

Ongoing Prayers for Healing: David Schilling / Wayne Smith / Dee & Joseph Ferreri / Ken & Ruth Unrath / Ede and Phillip Lundquist / Ron Kusel / Ken Hendershot / Andrew Ashline / Jo Kenney & Nana

In Oncology Therapy: Wendy Price

We encourage you to use this prayer list in your personal devotions at home. To submit a request to our prayer chain or to join our prayer chain, call Carolyn Elfman (951-354-9896), Dory Robb (951-687-5725) or the church office (951-682-7613).

Lent 2026 Series

Feb 18 – Ash Wednesday	Jesus & the 10
Feb 22	I Am Your Redeemer
Feb 25	I Am Your God
March 1	I Am Who I Am
March 4	I Am Your Rest
March 8	I Am Your King
March 11	I Am Your Life
March 15	I Am Your Purity
March 18	I Am Your Treasure
March 22	I Am Your Truth
March 25	I Am Your Contentment



Immanuel Lutheran Church and School

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



March 29 | Palm Sunday 9:30 AM

April 2 | Maundy Thursday 6:30 PM

April 3 | Good Friday Noon & 6:30 PM

April 5 | Easter Sunday Services
6:30 AM Sunrise,
8:30 & 10:30 Festival Services

5455 Alessandro Blvd. Riverside, CA 92506
951-682-7613 Immanuelriverside.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY - CHILDCARE PROVIDED -- There is no Sunday school today due to the Voter's Meeting, but we will have childcare for parents wishing to attend the meeting. We will still have Confirmation as usual.

SERVE & SPORTS LUNCH NEXT SUNDAY -- All youth are invited to Serve and Sports next Sunday with lunch provided! Meet in the youth lounge at 11 for food and discussion then head outside for some sports and games.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES - Confirmation Unit 2 has started and will be meeting every Sunday at 11am in the Youth Lounge.

VOTERS MEETING: The Voters Meeting will be held today in GPEC following the service. Light refreshments will be served. Please sign in at the table by the entrance to GPEC before you take a seat.

LENTEN SUPPERS AND SERVICE WEDNESDAYS AT 6PM

Please join us this week for a time of food and fellowship in Graumman Hall starting at 6 PM. The Board of Elders will be assisting in helping this for Feb 25th, but we are looking for groups and individuals to sponsor future weeks. Please use the sign up sheet in the narthex if you will bring a soup, side or help set up or tear down. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to Matthew Chrzan at matthewchrzan@gmail.com.

ALTAR FLOWERS Altar flowers are given by Nathan and Jean Kempe for their 7th wedding anniversary on March 1st.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK Doris Schwecke—Feb. 23, Eileen Haiker—Feb. 23, Mason Babcock—Feb. 25, Cole Vigo—Feb. 27, John Lundi—Feb. 28, Nancy Roth—Feb. 28, Craig Schwecke—Mar. 1.

NEW MEMBER DISCIPLESHIP CLASS Join our New Member Class Join us on March 1st for our next round of Re:Form, our nine week discipleship class designed for the curious about Christianity and for longtime members! Built by our own members for new members, Re:Form gets you in a rhythm of daily devotions, prayer, and small group discussion all while learning about what Immanuel is all about. If you would like to join or have questions, contact Pastor Robert at robert.jones.immanuel@gmail.com

MENS BIBLE STUDY Meetings are first and third Saturdays at 8:30am in the conference room. Coffee and donuts at every meeting and we are studying the book of Genesis. Our next meeting is Saturday, March 7th. If you are interested please call the office at 951-682-7613 or email info@immanuelriverside.com

WOMENS BIBLE STUDY Meets the 2nd and 4th Saturdays at 9:30am and led by Leslie Reick. Our next meeting will be February 28th. We are studying 10 Women of the Bible by Max Lucado

2026-27 SCHOOL AND PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT Community Registration for the next school year has opened, if you know a family who is searching for an excellent, Christ centered education, tell them about Immanuel. Have them call the school office at 951-682-4211 or email our admissions coordination at admission@ilcs-riverside.org.

DIVORCE CARE A Christ centered divorce support group led by Scott and Cindy Hutter. Divorce Care is open to church and community, and is designed to help comfort and heal those going through separation and divorce. For more information, please feel free to contact Cindy and Scott Hutter at 909-234-0942. or email us at scotthutter60@gmail.com. Divorce Care has an excellent website detailing topics, etc., at www.Divorcecare.org.

FOOD DRIVE-Let's Help Support our Local Pantries and Seniors!

Will YOU join us this month? We are collecting non-perishable food to support local neighborhood pantries and seniors. *The items most commonly requested are:*

Canned soups, canned beans, canned tomato sauce, spaghetti sauce, canned vegetables, canned meat and canned fruit. Pasta noodles, rice, peanut butter, jelly, oatmeal, boxed cereal, household cleaners, and hygiene items.

Donation boxes (2) are provided for your items. These will be located inside the Church on the side isle, and in the church office. Church office hours are M-F 8:30-3:30pm. Thank you for YOUR generosity! **Any questions? Leave a message for Julia in the Church Office at 951-682-7613.**

ENDOWMENT FUND UPDATE

Tax season is a good time to consider giving to the Immanuel Lutheran Endowment Fund, which provides lasting support for the mission of the church, its schools, and outreach to the community. Endowment income funds scholarships for Lutheran ministry and Christian education, as well as grants for non-budgeted projects that strengthen Immanuel's ministry beyond the annual budget.

In collaboration with **LCMS Foundation advisors**, the Endowment Commission has set a goal of **\$1,000,000** in assets, and we are very close to reaching it. Once achieved, annual awards of up to **4% may be distributed**, with even greater impact as the fund continues to grow.

Ways to support the Endowment include: Cash gifts, including memorial or honor gifts, Gifts of appreciated securities (stocks or mutual funds), Donor-advised fund grants, Qualified charitable distributions from IRAs, Including the Endowment in a will or trust, Naming the Endowment as a beneficiary of a retirement account or life insurance policy, Gifts of real estate or other assets, Charitable remainder trusts

Scholarship Reminder:

The scholarship application deadline for the 2026–27 academic year is April 1. Scholarships are available to Immanuel members attending a Christian college or university and majoring in Lutheran ministry or Christian education. Applications are available online at immanuelriverside.com/endowment-application or at the church office.

For more information about scholarships, grants, or ways to support the Endowment, contact the church office at 951-682-7613 and leave a message for the Endowment Commission.

JOIN US FOR A

Restaurant

NIGHT OUT!

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24TH
ALL DAY

ISLANDS

Fine Burgers & Drinks

3645 CENTRAL AVE,
RIVERSIDE, CA 92506

GREAT FOOD • FUN TIMES
SUPPORT ILCS
20% BACK

Show this flyer or mention Immanuel to your server.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS AND ASSISTANTS

Preacher Pastor Robert Jones
 Liturgist Pastor Steven Borst
 Elder Michael Ferreri
 Children's Message..... Gina Bertaina, D.C.E. Intern
 Ushers Elmer Baumgarten, John Uhles, Terry Streich, Rory Valek
 Lector..... Suzie Pratt
 Greeters..... Del & Lea Petersen
 Organ/Piano..... Dr. Elvin Rodriguez, Jan Smith
 Praise Team..... Linette Rodriguez, Suzie Pratt
 Tech Team..... Patty Fountain, Annika Kaminski, Kaija Kaminski
 Acolytes Anika Hansen

OUR VISION

Immanuel Lutheran Church and School is a grace-filled community rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, serving the Inland Empire as a center for Christian faith. Our worship honors God in both classical and contemporary styles where Christ is glorified and proclaimed. We disciple both youth and adults, engaging hearts and minds through Bible education and the arts. Our schools pursue excellence in educating children as well as impacting families with the transforming love of God. As followers of Jesus we live out our faith through service, evangelism, and missions in our community and the world.

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