

Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

March 29, 2020

On-line service

"The mission of our Immanuel family is to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus our Savior, and until He returns, to share our certainty of getting to heaven through Him."

Hymn

211, "I Know of a Sleep in Jesus' Name"

- 1 I know of a sleep in Jesus' name, A rest from all toil and sorrow;
Earth folds in her arms my weary frame And shelters it till the morrow.
My soul is at home with God in heav'n; My sorrows are past and over.
- 2 I know of a morning, bright and fair When tidings of joy shall wake us,
When songs from on high shall fill the air And God to his glory take us,
When Jesus shall bid us rise from sleep—How joyous that hour of waking!
- 3 God's Son to our graves then makes his way; His voice hear all tribes and nations;
The trumpet of God will sound the day And shake all the earth's foundations.
He calls out aloud, "O dead, come forth!" In glory we rise to meet him.
- 4 O Jesus, draw near my dying bed And take me into your keeping
And say when my spirit hence is fled, "This child is not dead, but sleeping."
And leave me not, Savior, till I rise To praise you in life eternal.

Text: Magnus B. Landstad, 1802–80, abr.; tr. *The Lutheran Hymnary*, Decorah, 1913, alt.

The Invocation

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



C: A - men.

The Confession of Sins and Absolution

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy



on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



C: A - men.

The Prayer of the Day

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Let us pray.

Eternal God and Father, help us to remember Jesus, who obeyed your will and bore the cross for our salvation and through his anguish, pain, and death we may received forgiveness of sins and inherit eternal life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

The First Lesson

Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the LORD was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. ³ He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?"

I said, "Sovereign LORD, you alone know."

⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD! ⁵ This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. ⁶ I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD.'"

⁷ So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. ⁸ I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them.

⁹ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to it, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live.'" ¹⁰ So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army.

¹¹ Then he said to me: "Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.' ¹² Therefore prophesy and say to them: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: My people, I am going to

open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³ Then you, my people, will know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. ¹⁴ I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the LORD have spoken, and I have done it, declares the LORD.” (NIV)

Psalm

Psalm 116:1-9

¹ I love the LORD, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy.
² Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live.
³ The cords of death entangled me, the anguish of the grave came over me;
I was overcome by distress and sorrow.
⁴ Then I called on the name of the LORD: “LORD, save me!”
⁵ The LORD is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion.
⁶ The LORD protects the unwary; when I was brought low, he saved me.
⁷ Return to your rest, my soul, for the LORD has been good to you.
⁸ For you, LORD, have delivered me from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling,
⁹ that I may walk before the LORD in the land of the living. (NIV)

The Second Lesson

Romans 8:11-19

¹¹ And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

¹² Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

¹⁴ For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. ¹⁵ The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “*Abba*, Father.” ¹⁶ The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. ¹⁷ Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

¹⁸ I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. (NIV)

The Holy Gospel

St. John 11:17-27,38-45

M: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, Chapter 11.



C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!

¹⁷ On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁹ and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

²¹ “Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.”

The Hymn

- 1 Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side;
 Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
 Leave to your God to order and provide;
 In ev'ry change he faithful will remain.
 Be still, my soul; your best, your heav'nly friend
 Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.
- 2 Be still, my soul; your God will undertake
 To guide the future as he has the past.
 Your hope, your confidence, let nothing shake;
 All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
 Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know
 His voice who ruled them while he lived below.
- 3 Be still, my soul, though dearest friends depart
 And all is darkened in the vale of tears;
 Then you will better know his love, his heart,
 Who comes to soothe your sorrows and your fears.
 Be still, my soul; your Jesus can repay
 From his own fullness all he takes away.
- 4 Be still, my soul; the hour is hast'ning on
 When we shall be forever with the Lord,
 When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
 Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
 Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,
 All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

Text: Catharina A. von Schlegel, 1697-1752,
abr.; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813-97, alt.

The Sermon Text

Ezekiel 37:1-14

The Sermon

"There Is Always Hope"

Create in Me

 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
 Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
 Restore unto me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.
 Amen.

The Prayer of the Church

The Lord's Prayer

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

M: Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

The Benediction

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

The Closing Hymn

420, sts. 1,2,4 "God Moves In A Mysterious Way"

- 1 God moves in a mysterious way
His wonders to perform;
He plants his footsteps in the sea
And rides upon the storm.
- 2 Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,
But trust him for his grace;
Behind a frowning providence
He has a smiling face.
- 4 You fearful saints, fresh courage take;
The clouds you so much dread
Are big with mercy and will break
In blessing on your head.

Text: William Cowper, 1731–1800, abr., alt.

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