



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH WATERLOO, ILLINOIS

Fourth Sunday in Lent

LUKE 15:31



Saturday, March 29, 2025 – 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, March 30, 2025 – 7:45 a.m. & 10:15 a.m.

“Making more and stronger disciples of Jesus Christ
through the power of the Holy Spirit.”

Welcome to Immanuel!

Please turn off your cell phones and/or paging devices. Thank you!

If you are a guest, please fill out a guests' card located in the cardholder on the back of each pew and then place it in the offering plate. We look forward to meeting you!

Members, please help us love and care for one another by filling out an attendance card. Remember to include all the members of your family who are present in worship today. If you are communing, please check in the appropriate place. Thank you for filling out an Attendance-Communion card every time you attend Church.

We celebrate Holy Communion today! In this Supper of our Lord we receive the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the earthly forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of our sins and the strengthening of our faith. This Holy Communion is also a sign of our shared confession of the Christian faith. If you have not communed with us before, please speak with one of our pastors before doing so.

During the communion service: If you're not able to drink wine, the lighter colored glasses in the center of the tray of individual cups contain water with a drop of wine. These special glasses allow communicants to celebrate the Lord's Supper according to Christ's institution, but have a very small amount of alcohol.

Worship at Immanuel is...

Christ Centered. We believe that at the heart of worship is the Good News that God has rescued us from our sins through Jesus' death on the cross and rising to life again.

Trinitarian. We believe that the object of worship is the only true God—The Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Multigenerational. We believe that it is a great blessing for family members to worship together. Taking seriously Jesus' words, "Let the little children come to me and so not forbid them" (Mark 10:14), we encourage children to worship with their parents and grandparents and provide resources such as children's bulletins and children's sermons.

Eclectic. Eclectic means, "selecting what seems best of various sources." We believe that we should strive to use the best hymns and practices that the church has to offer. Our worship may include hymns written 500 years ago as well as pieces written 5 months ago.

In preparation for worship we ask that you silence your cell phones and/or paging devices. Thank you. The time before service begins can be a good time to pray and prepare your heart and mind for worship. You will find helpful prayers on the inside cover of the hymnal located in the pew in front of you.

Preservice Music / Bells

Welcome / Greeting

Please stand

Opening Hymn, *LSB* 528 v. 1-4, “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

Invocation

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen. (Matthew 28:19b; [18:20])

Opening Sentences

(Isaiah 12:2)

P Behold, God is my salvation;

C **I will trust, and will not be afraid;**

P for the Lord God is my strength and my song,

C **and He has become my salvation.**

Confession and Absolution

(1 Corinthians 10:13; Psalm 96:2)

P Beloved in the Lord, Paul reassures us, saying, “No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and He will not let you be tempted beyond your ability.” Let us with confidence and gladness enter God’s presence, confessing our sins and receiving His grace, assurance, and forgiveness.

C **Lord God, we are exceedingly glad to enter Your house this day, for we have heard and believe in the invitation of Your loving kindness and redemption through Jesus Christ, Your Son. In the trust and hope of the faith You have given us as Your baptized children, we confess to You all our sins and failures to share Your gifts of mercy with others. Grant us the forgiveness for which we ask and give us a renewed heart and spirit to sing Your praises in worship of You and to the joy of all.**

P “Sing to the LORD, bless His name; tell of His salvation from day to day.” Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

+ Service of the Word +

Introit of the Day

(Psalm 51:2-6; antiphon: v. 1)

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love;

according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,

and cleanse me from my sin!

For I know my transgressions,

and my sin is ever before me.

Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight,

so that You may be justified in Your words and blameless in Your judgment.

Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,

and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Behold, You delight in truth in the inward being,

and You teach me wisdom in the secret heart.

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.

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love;

according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

(2 Timothy 4:22)

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

C Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated

(10:15 a.m.) **Solo (Doug Land)**, “The Power of the Cross” (Getty & Townend)

Old Testament Reading, Isaiah 12:1-6

¹You will say in that day: “I will give thanks to you, O LORD, for though you were angry with me, your anger turned away, that you might comfort me.

²“Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.” ³With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴And you will say in that day: “Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted. ⁵“Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth. ⁶Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle, 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer.

¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

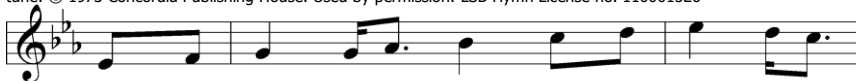
L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Gradual Hymn, LSB 735, “Have No Fear, Little Flock”

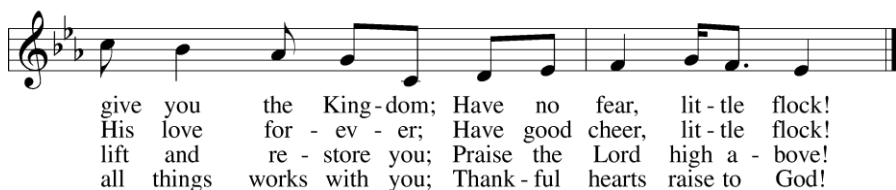
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1 Have no fear,	lit - tle flock;	Have no fear,	lit - tle
2 Have good cheer,	lit - tle flock;	Have good cheer,	lit - tle
3 Praise the Lord high a -	bove;	Praise the Lord high a -	
4 Thank - ful hearts	raise to God;	Thank - ful hearts	raise to



flock,	For the	Fa - ther	has cho - sen	To
flock,	For the	Fa - ther	will keep you	In
bove,	For He	stoops down	to heal you,	Up -
God,	For He	stays close	be - side you,	In



Holy Gospel, Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 15th chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus]. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.” ³So he told them this parable: . . . “There was a man who had two sons.

¹²And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. ¹³Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. ¹⁴And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷“But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.”’” ²⁰And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²²But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. ²³And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

²⁵“Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, ²⁹but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened

calf for him!’ ³¹And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated

Children’s Message (Parents of young children may also come forward with their children.)

Hymn of the Day, *LSB* 941, “We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God”

Sermon, “....all that is Mine....is yours! With Love...the Prodigal--- Father” ---based on Luke 15:31

Please stand

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

(1 Timothy 2:1-4)

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

P (*Special petitions...*) Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

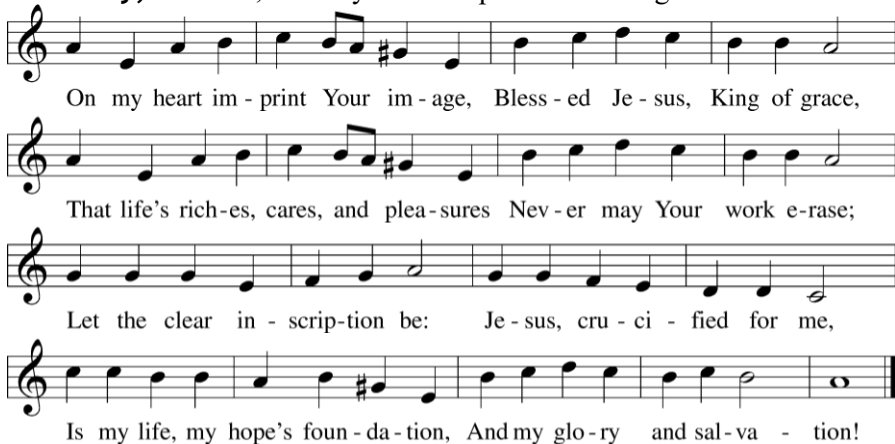
C **Amen.**

Please be seated

Offering (*During the Saturday service, please place your offering and attendance card in the plate in the narthex before or after the service.*)

Please stand

Offertory, LSB 422, “On My Heart Imprint Your Image”



On my heart im - print Your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,
That life's rich-es, cares, and plea-sures Nev-er may Your work e-rase;
Let the clear in - scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,
Is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

✠ Service of the Sacrament ✠

In this Supper of our Lord we receive the true body and blood of Jesus Christ under the earthly forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of our sins and the strengthening of our faith. Since this Holy Communion is also a sign of how we commonly confess the Christian faith, we welcome to the Lord's Table those who are confirmed members of congregations of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

Preface

P The Lord be with you. (2 Timothy 4:22)

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts. (Colossians 3:1)

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. (Psalm 136)


C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

(Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9)



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Words of Our Lord (Matt 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19-20; 1 Cor 11:23-25)

The Lord's Prayer

(Matthew 6:9-13)

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.

Pax Domini

(John 20:19)

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

(John 1:29)

C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true us, Lamb of God, Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Please be seated

Distribution

LSB 542, "When I Behold Jesus Christ"

LSB 629, "What Is This Bread"

LSB 632, "O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee"

Please stand

Dismissal

P The body and blood... Go in peace.

C Amen.

Nunc Dimittis

C 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All



part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the

glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, Of For - ev - er Three - in - One;

A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect



Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Amen.

Benediction

(Numbers 6:24-26)



The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The LORD look upon you with favor and give you peace.



Amen.

Closing Hymn, LSB 528 v. 5-7, “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

Bells / Postlude

We invite you to take the service folder and announcements home with you as you leave today so you can see what's happening this week as well as meditate on the Scriptures, prayers, and hymns from today's service as you go through the week. You can also find helpful information on our church website: immanuelwaterloo.org.

Worship Helpers

Saturday, March 29, 2025 - 5:30 p.m.

Pastor - Rev. Brian Downs

Server - Cal Neeman

Altar Guild - Diana Heins

Organist - Sarah Koester

Acolytes - Quinn Menke & Avery Griffin

Media - Gwen Wiegand

Sunday, March 30, 2025 - 7:45 a.m.

Pastor - Rev. Brian Downs

Server - Alex Voges

Acolytes - Rosie & Brielle Fink

Ushers - Allen Jacobs, Don & Gina Birrittier, Mason Wilhelm

Media - Lisa Clamors

Music Director - Ann Frank

Lector - Don Birrittier

Altar Guild - Barbara Altes

Sunday, March 30, 2025 - 10:15 a.m.

Pastor - Rev. Brian Downs

Server - Jason Valerius & Doug Simms

Acolytes - Logan Kettler & Will Hanks

Ushers - Lee Eggemeyer, Adam Eggemeyer, Chase Richey, Jakson Gregory

Media/Facebook Live - Cathy & Ashlyn Whelan

Music Director - Ann Frank

Lector - Don Birrittier

Altar Guild - Don Birrittier

Worship Helpers – Wednesday, April 2, 2025 – 6:30 p.m.

Ushers - Elden Niemeyer, Wayne Hargrave, Warren Frank, Daniel Niemeyer

Acolytes - Jakson Gregory & Chase Richey

Media/Facebook Live - Ashlyn Whelan

Ushers - Sunday, April 6, 2025

7:45 a.m. - Larry Taake, Dawn Rubemeyer, Glen Muench

10:15 a.m. - Jason Valerius, Trinity Drewes, Jeriah Fink, Brielle Fink

Acolytes - Sunday, April 6, 2025

Saturday 5:30 p.m. - Audrey Braun

Sunday 7:45 a.m. - Will Hanks & AJ Helms

Sunday 10:15 a.m. - Henry Eggemeyer & Tyler Major

Servers - Sunday, April 6, 2025

Saturday 5:30 p.m. - Greg Wiegand

Sunday 7:45 a.m. - Warren Frank

Sunday 10:15 a.m. - Dusty Dethrow & Rodney Clamors

Media - Sunday, April 6, 2025

Saturday 5:30 p.m. - Clark Deptula

Sunday 7:45 a.m. - Olivia Rusteberg

Sunday 10:15 a.m. - Ayda Eggemeyer

Lectors - Sunday, April 6, 2025

Saturday 5:30 p.m. - n/a

Sunday 7:45 a.m. - Warren Frank

Sunday 10:15 a.m. - Rodney Clamors

Altar Guild - Sunday, April 6, 2025

Saturday 5:30 p.m. - Cally Killian

Sunday 7:45 a.m. - Debbie Olsson

Sunday 10:15 a.m. - Joyce McDaniel

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL – WATERLOO, ILLINOIS LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD

immanuelwaterloo.org

e-mail: immanuelwaterloo@gmail.com

Rev. Brian Downs, Vacancy Pastor

Mrs. Lisa Clamors, Office Admin.

Mrs. Ann Frank, Music Director

Mrs. Linda Polansky, Preschool Director

618-939-6480 or 618-920-6657

618-939-6480 or 618-719-4954

618-939-6480 or 618-282-6597

618-939-6480 or 618-980-3475



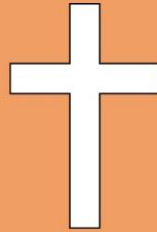
DONATIONS NEEDED!

**Looking for
individually
wrapped small
candy & toys to
put in the Easter
eggs.**

**NO PLASTIC EGGS NEEDED.
WE HAVE PLENTY!**

**DROP OFF YOUR DONATIONS IN THE
CHURCH OFFICE BY APRIL 11TH.**

IAM...



LENTEN SERMON SERIES

MARCH 5 - APRIL 20, 2025

you are...

3/5: Ash Weds 9 AM & 6:30-- "IAM the Bread of Life...you are filled" --John 6:35

3/12: Midweek-- "IAM the Light of the World...you are my beacons" --John 8:12

3/19: Midweek-- "IAM the Gate...you are saved" --John 10:10

3/26: Midweek-- "IAM the Good Shepherd.....you are protected" --John 10:14, 28

4/2: Midweek-- "IAM the Way, the Truth, and the Life....you are Mine" --John 14:6

4/9: Midweek-- "IAM the True Vine....you are My disciples" --John 15:8

Holy Week:

4/13: Palm Sunday-- "IAM the King.....you are My heirs"

4/17: Maundy Thursday "IAM the Sacrifice.....you are forgiven"

4/18: Good Friday; Service of Tenebrae--- "IAM Stricken, Smitten and
Afflicted....you are Redeemed"

4/20: Easter Sunday--- IAM the Resurrection and the Life....you are a living
testimony"

MISSION QUILT TYING DAY



Sunday, March 30, 2025

11:30 am - 4:00 pm

Multipurpose Room

Lunch & snacks provided

**Our Mission for 2025... To provide a quilt to each student at Unity
Lutheran Elementary School in East St. Louis.**

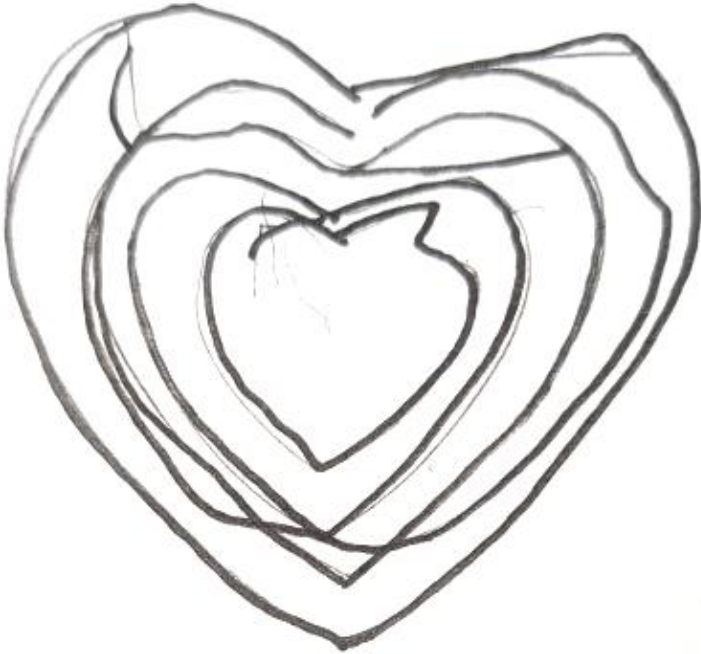
Join Immanuel's QTs for a fun day of mission work tying quilts, cutting blocks, and other projects to help support their 2025 mission project.

Please sign up in the narthex if you plan to attend to help us prepare. Walk-ins are certainly welcome as well!

All ages welcome.
No experience needed.
Hope to see you then!

Preschool Student of the Week
March 31 – April 4, 2025

Jesus, Founder and Perfecter of our Faith
HIS love endures forever!
Heb. 12:1-3



Mackenzie Beyer