Holy Gospel John 20:19-23

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side.

Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you."

And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld."

Sermon Hymn "As Surely As I Live", God Said" # 614

Sermon "The Sum of Forgiveness: Confession and Absolution"

Hebrews 9:11-28 Pastor Squire

Apostles Creed (stand) (back cover of Hymnal)

Canticle (stand) Magnificat - Song of Mary page 248

Prayer

Litany / Responsive Prayer (Lent) / Collect pages 249 - 251
The Lord's Prayer page 251

Benedicamus / Benediction page 252

Hymn "Not All the Blood of Beasts" # 431

#### Public Questioning of Confirmands

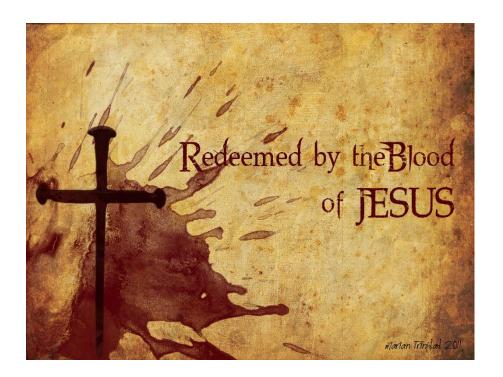
The Rite of Confirmation provides an opportunity for the individual Christian, relying on God's promise given in Baptism, to make a public profession of the faith and a lifelong pledge of faithfulness to Christ. Confirmation students traditionally make a profession of their faith in a public ceremony, referred to in our church as "Public Questioning of the Confirmands".

Not something to fear, not something to take lightly, rather it should be regarded as an opportunity for classmates to witness to each other and to the congregation, that they have studied, learned - and will for a lifetime - cling to these Christian beliefs. May the Holy Spirit continue to nurture their faith.

# Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod 308 West Fifth Street, St. Ansgar, Iowa 641 713-4782

Pastor Mark Squire



Mid-Week Lent Worship
20 March Anno Domini 2024

# Evening Prayer - page 243

The Lutheran Service Book

Opening Hymn "Chief of Sinners Though I Be" # 611

**Invocation** (stand)

Service of Light page 243

Hymn of Light (Phos Hilaron) page 244

Thanksgiving for Light page 245

Psalmody pages 245-247

Psalm 97 (chanted)

## Scripture Readings

Response: "Thanks be to God."

### Old Testament Reading

Exodus 24:1-8

Then he said to Moses, "Come up to the LORD, you and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, and worship from afar. Moses alone shall come near to the LORD, but the others shall not come near, and the people shall not come up with him."

Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD and all the rules. And all the people answered with one voice and said, "All the words that the LORD has spoken we will do." And Moses wrote down all the words of the LORD. He rose early in the morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel. And he sent young men of the people of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the LORD. And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he threw against the altar. Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it in the hearing of the people. And they said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient." And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words."

Epistle Reading Hebrews 9:11-28

But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant. For where a will is involved, the death of the one who made it must be established. For a will takes effect only at death, since it is not in force as long as the one who made it is alive.

Therefore not even the first covenant was inaugurated without blood. For when every commandment of the law had been declared by Moses to all the people, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, saying, "This is the blood of the covenant that God commanded for you." And in the same way he sprinkled with the blood both the tent and all the vessels used in worship. Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins. Thus it was necessary for the copies of the heavenly things to be purified with these rites, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. For Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. Nor was it to offer himself repeatedly, as the high priest enters the holy places every year with blood not his own, for then he would have had to suffer repeatedly since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.