

Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

308 West Fifth Street

St. Ansgar, Iowa 50472

641 713 4782

Pastor Mark Squire



18 February Anno Domini 2026

10:15 AM and 6:30 PM

Ash Wednesday Order of Worship – The Litany - page 288

Opening Hymn “To Thee, Omniscient Lord of All” # 613

Invocation

Opening Address

The Litany

page 288

Imposition of Ashes

(Found numerically, front pages of Hymnal)

Old Testament

Joel 2:12-19

answered and said to his people, "Behold, I am sending to you grain, wine, and oil, and you will be satisfied; and I will no more make you a reproach among the nations.

Epistle:

2 Corinthians 5:20b – 6:10

We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

“Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.

But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. “And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret.

And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. “And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.

But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Nicene Creed (inside back cover of hymnal)

Hymn “When in the Hour of Deepest Need” # 615

Sermon “The First Commandment” Pastor Squire
Joel 2:12-14

“God the Lord Gave His Command” Verses 1, 10 (Insert)
(Sung during the Sermon)

Corporate Confession / Absolution / Holy Communion p. 290

Distribution Hymns # 419, # 627

Blessing of Peace

Closing Hymn “Lord Jesus, Think on Me” # 610

Please leave in prayerful silence.

Communion Statement

The Lord’s Supper is celebrated at this altar in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust in His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes again. Because those who eat and drink our Lord’s body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, who are in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor. You are invited to the Altar for a blessing from Pastor – just cross your arms over your chest. Please schedule a time with Pastor or one of our Elders for further conversation about this Holy Sacrament.

Thank you.