

L Turn away
E
N
T from sin

Midweek 5
March 14, 2018
7 pm



Return
 God redeems
 restores
 raises up
 never changes
 is calling always



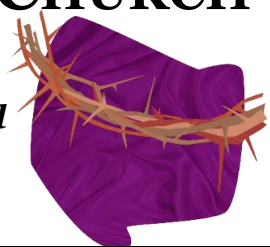
RETURN!

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH



*Making known
by Word and Action
the Healing Presence of God
in Christ Jesus with Us
and with the World.*

Immanuel's Mission



Welcome to Immanuel

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 Scripture readings: *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version* © 2001 Crossway Bibles; Wheaton, IL. ARR/UBP.

LENTEN MIDWEEK SERIES

Return to the Lord

LENTEN MIDWEEK 5

“Return to the Lord Who Does Not Change!”

March 14, 2018 7:00 pm

WELCOME to all guests and members; we are glad that you are here to worship with us and hope you will return often as *our friends in Christ!*



At times, it seems there are very few things in this world that we can count on; and that, in part, because everything is changing, and changing unpredictably, erratically, and in ways that are less than helpful. We yearn from something greater—something more stable. “...*Earth’s joys grow dim, its glories pass away; change and decay in all around I see; O Thou who changest not, abide with me.*” {LSB 878 stz. 4} The Lord does not change! He continues to condemn sin, but His mercy also endures forever. Because the Lord, in mercy, refrained from doing what He had every right to do (punishing us with consuming wrath), we have yet another reason to *Return to the Lord*: He does not change — His mercy abides.

PRELUDE



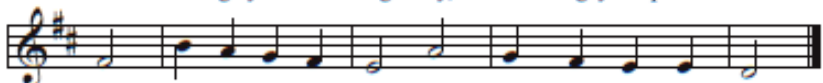
OPENING HYMN “This Day Return to Me”



1 “This day re-turn to Me. Come now!” com-mands the Lord.
2 “This day re-turn to Me. Come now with songs of praise.
3 “This day re-turn to Me. Come now and be re - stored.
4 “This day re-turn to Me. Come now and heal - ing find.



“Let your re - pen-tance be Di - rect - ed by My Word.
Your full re-demp-tion see. Hymns of thanks - giv - ing raise!
Strength-ened and heart-ened be As peo - ple of the Lord.
Rais - ing you lov - ing - ly, I bring you peace of mind.



This day re-turn to Me For bless - ings great and free.
This day re-turn to Me In true hu - mil - i - ty.
This day re-turn to Me With hope-filled cer - tain - ty.
This day re-turn to Me With trust - ing loy - al - ty.

5 “This day return to Me. Come now, this promise hear:
For all eternity To Me you are most dear!
This day return to Me As children gratefully.”

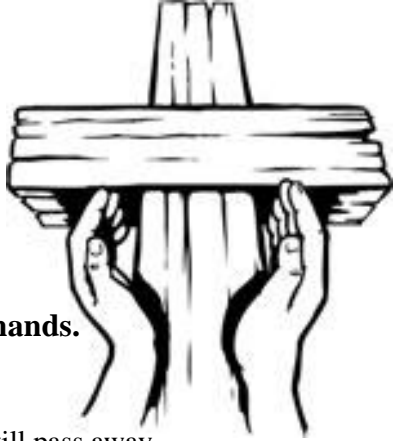
Please stand... Silence for Reflection

INVOCATION AND KYRIE

- P** In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C** Amen.
- P** O Lord, **C** have mercy.
- P** O Christ, **C** have mercy.
- P** O Lord, **C** have mercy.

OPENING SENTENCES Psalm 102:1, 25–28

- P** Hear my prayer, O LORD;
- C** let my cry come to You!
- P** Of old You laid the foundation of the earth,
- C** and the heavens are the work of Your hands.
- P** They will perish, but You will remain;
- C** they will all wear out like a garment.
- P** You will change them like a robe, and they will pass away,
- C** but You are the same, and Your years have no end.
- P** The children of Your servants shall dwell secure;
- C** their offspring shall be established before You.



CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION Psalm 25:6–12; Mark 16:16

- P** Remember Your mercy, O Lord, and Your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.
- C** I am by nature sinful and unclean.
- P** Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
- C** I confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You.
- P** According to Your steadfast love remember me,
- C** I have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed.
- P** For the sake of Your goodness, O Lord!
- C** I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them.
- P** Good and upright is the Lord; therefore He instructs sinners in the way.
- C** I flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- P** He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble His way.
- C** Have mercy on me and for His sake grant me remission of all my sins.

- P** All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness,
for those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.
- C** **For Your Name’s sake, O Lord, pardon my guilt, for it is great.**
- P** Who is the man who fears the Lord?
Him will He instruct in the way that he should choose.
Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved.
- C** **Grant this, Lord, to us all. Amen.**

Please be seated...

PASSION INTRODUCTION

- P** The fourth section of the Passion Narrative taken from the four Gospels starts in the hall of judgment. It is here that we meet Pontius Pilate, a name so familiar to us because we speak it as part of the Creed. We also meet Herod and hear of the release of the notorious prisoner Barabbas. In a meaningful moment, Barabbas is set free and Jesus bears the punishment of the crowd, which is agitated by the chief priests and elders of the people. Jesus takes the punishment at that moment, just as He will take the punishment that pays the price of our sins at the cross.

To prepare for the hearing of this week’s narrative section, we sing the hymn “*My Song Is Love Unknown*.” Although the text is relatively new to usage in Lutheran hymnals, the words are from a poem written by English clergyman Samuel Crossman in 1664. One of the British king’s royal chaplains, Samuel Crossman used his ability with words to capture a deep devotional feeling that is as meaningful in the twenty-first century as it was when first written in the middle of the seventeenth century.

PASSION HYMN

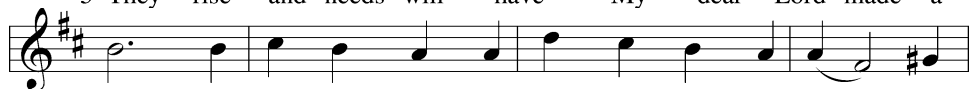
“*My Song Is Love Unknown*”

LSB 430 →

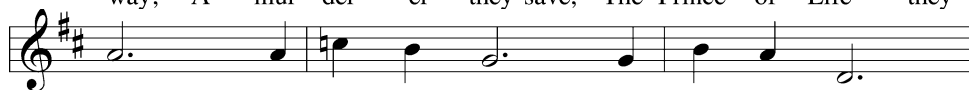




1 My song is love un - known, My Sav - ior's love to
 2 He came from His blest throne Sal - va - tion to be -
 3 Some - times they strew His way And His sweet prais - es
 4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and
 5 They rise and needs will have My dear Lord made a -



me, Love to the love - less shown That they might love - ly
 stow; But men made strange, and none The longed - for Christ would
 sing; Re - sound - ing all the day Ho - san - nas to their
 spite? He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their
 way; A mur - der - er they save, The Prince of Life they



be. Oh, who am I That for my sake
 know. But, oh, my friend, My friend in - deed,
 King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" Is all their breath,
 sight. Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these
 slay. Yet cheer - ful He To suf - f'ring goes



My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?
 Who at my need His life did spend!
 And for His death They thirst and cry.
 Them - selves dis - please And 'gainst Him rise.
 That He His foes From thence might free.

6 In life no house, no home
 My Lord on earth might have;
 In death no friendly tomb
 But what a stranger gave.
 What may I say?
 Heav'n was His home
 But mine the tomb
 Wherein He lay.

7 Here might I stay and sing,
 No story so divine!
 Never was love, dear King,
 Never was grief like Thine.
 This is my friend,
 In whose sweet praise
 I all my days
 Could gladly spend!

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RESPONSE

“Return to the Lord, Your God”



1 Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for He is gra - cious and
2 Break forth and sing out in joy, for in Christ we've been re -



mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
deemed by Him. God has freed us; may in us He be



stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.
glo - ri - fied, may in us He be glo - ri - fied.

Text: St. 1: Joel 2:13. © 1978 *Lutheran* .
Publishing House. St. 2: James Pierce. © 2017

OLD TESTAMENT

Malachi 3:6–12

EPISTLE

Hebrews 13:1–8

Please stand...

HOLY GOSPEL

st John 17:1–3

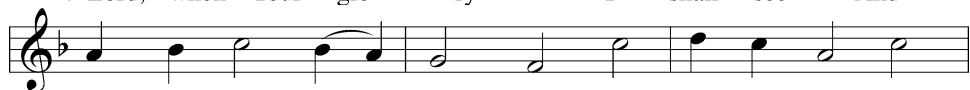
Please be seated...

HYMN OF THE DAY *“A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth”* **LSB 438** →





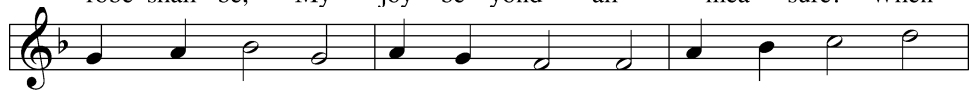
1 A Lamb goes un - com - plain - ing forth, The
2 This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great friend, The
3 "Yes, Fa - ther, yes, most will - ing - ly I'll
4 Lord, when Your glo - ry I shall see And



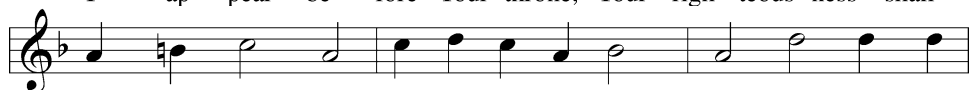
guilt of sin - ners bear - ing And, lad - en with the
Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, Whom God the Fa - ther
bear what You com - mand Me. My will con - forms to
taste Your king - dom's plea - sure, Your blood my roy - al



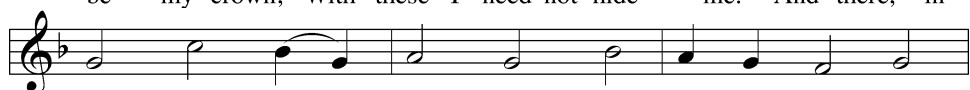
sins of earth, None else the bur - den shar - ing; Goes
chose to send To gain for us His fa - vor. "Go
Your de - cree, I'll do what You have asked Me." O
robe shall be, My joy be - yond all mea - sure! When



pa - tient on, grows weak and faint, To slaugh - ter led with -
forth, My Son," the Fa - ther said, "And free My chil - dren
won - drous Love, what have You done! The Fa - ther of - fers
I ap - pear be - fore Your throne, Your righ - teous - ness shall



out com - plaint, That spot - less life to of - fer, He bears the
from their dread Of guilt and con - dem - na - tion. The wrath and
up His Son, De - sir - ing our sal - va - tion. O Love, how
be my crown; With these I need not hide me. And there, in



stripes, the wounds, the lies, The mock - er - y, and
stripes are hard to bear, But by Your pas - sion
strong You are to save! You lay the One in -
gar - ments rich - ly wrought, As Your own bride shall



yet re - plies, "All this I glad - ly suf - fer."
they will share The fruit of Your sal - va - tion."
to the grave Who built the earth's foun - da - tion.
we be brought To stand in joy be - side You.

SERMON

“Return to the Lord Who Does Not Change!”

OFFERINGS GATHERED, MUSICAL OFFERING

Please stand...

OFFERTORY HYMN: “Not All the Blood of Beasts”

LSB 431



1 Not all the blood of beasts On Jew - ish al - tars slain
2 But Christ, the heav'n - ly Lamb, Takes all our sins a - way;
3 My faith would lay its hand On that dear head of Thine,
4 My soul looks back to see The bur - den Thou didst bear
5 Be - liev - ing, we re - joice To see the curse re - move;



Could give the guilt - y con - science peace Or wash a - way the stain.
A sac - ri - fice of no - bler name And rich - er blood than they.
While as a pen - i - tent I stand, And there con - fess my sin.
When hang - ing on the curs - ed tree; I know my guilt was there.
We bless the Lamb with cheer - ful voice And sing His bleed - ing love.

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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray.

Gracious and merciful God, we turn to You, praying for the nations of the world and Your good creation. We fear the wars and civil strife, the rising seas and severe droughts that may occur.

C **Strengthen our faith and give us hope. Instill a desire for peace and justice in the leaders of the nations, and awaken in us all a sense of devotion to the care of Your good creation.**

P Redeeming Lord, we turn to You, praying for all who are denied human dignity for any reason and all who are enslaved to their personal addictions.

C **Open their hearts and minds to the truth of the freedom from sin You won for us. Release them from individual prisons of every kind. May they break forth in joy for their newfound freedom.**

P Hope of the hopeless, we turn to You, praying that You be with all who are frustrated by inadequate housing, unemployment, and isolation.

C **Surround them with supportive people of faith and guide them to the resources they need. Restore in them the certainty of Your presence so that they may stand to face whatever the future holds.**

P Heavenly Father, we turn to You, praying for those near and dear to us, and all who call out to You who are beset with various crises of faith and health.

- C** Remind them of our Savior, who overcame death and the grave and rose on the third day. Use the skills You have placed within medical professionals and counselors of all sorts to show Your love, unknown to them in their present hour.
- P** O Thou who changest not, we turn to You, praying for those who have strayed from the family of faith.
- C** Open their ears to hear You calling them home. Surround them with people to speak Your Word and demonstrate Your care. May they ponder anew what the Almighty can do.
- P** O Holy Spirit, we turn to You who tires not in inviting us to return, praying for all who are burdened with guilt or shame.
- C** Remind them that it is the Savior who calls; let every ear hear and respond, confessing their sins in the sure hope of gracious forgiveness.
- P** Lord Jesus, You returned to Jerusalem, passionate in Your mission to show mercy and love.
- C** Give us confident faith at every reception of Your body and blood in the Lord's Supper. Gather us as a hen gathers her chicks that the whole Church may rejoice together under Your eternal protection.
- P** O Word of God Incarnate, You were sent by the Father to do His will.
- C** We give thanks that by Your obedient death and resurrection You returned to Him, having accomplished Your mission and offering pardon to all who bring their requests to Him in Your Name.
- P** These and any other things You would have us ask of You, heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose Name we pray; together:

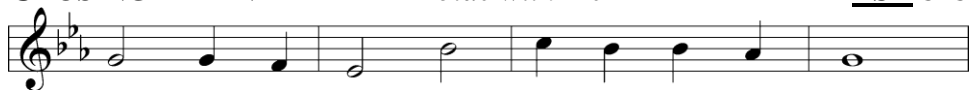
LORD'S PRAYER

- 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.

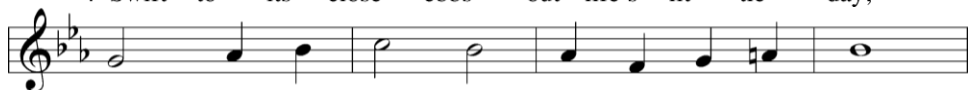
BENEDICTION

- P** The Lord, who calls you to return, bless you and keep you.
The Lord, who offers grace and mercy,
make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord, who has worked faith in your heart to respond to His love,
look upon you with favor and give you peace. **C** Amen.



CLOSING HYMN*“Abide with Me”***LSB 878**

1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
 2 I need Thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
 3 Come not in ter - rors, as the King of kings,
 4 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
 What but Thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?
 But kind and good, with heal - ing in Thy wings;
 Earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;

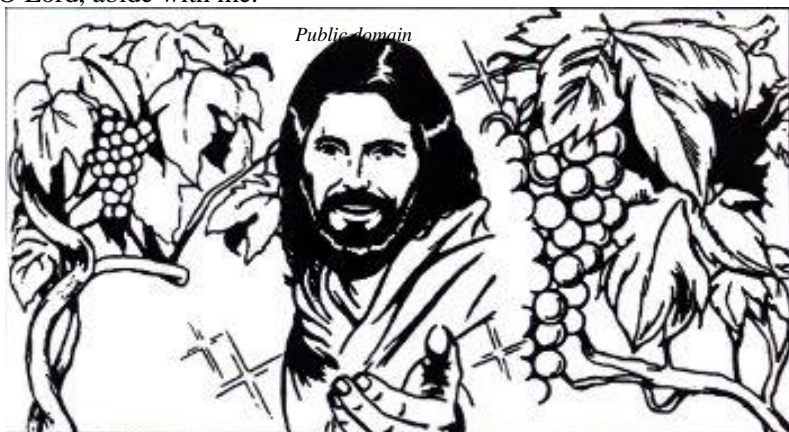


When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
 Who like Thy - self my guide and stay can be?
 Tears for all woes, a heart for ev - 'ry plea.
 Change and de - cay in all a - round I see;



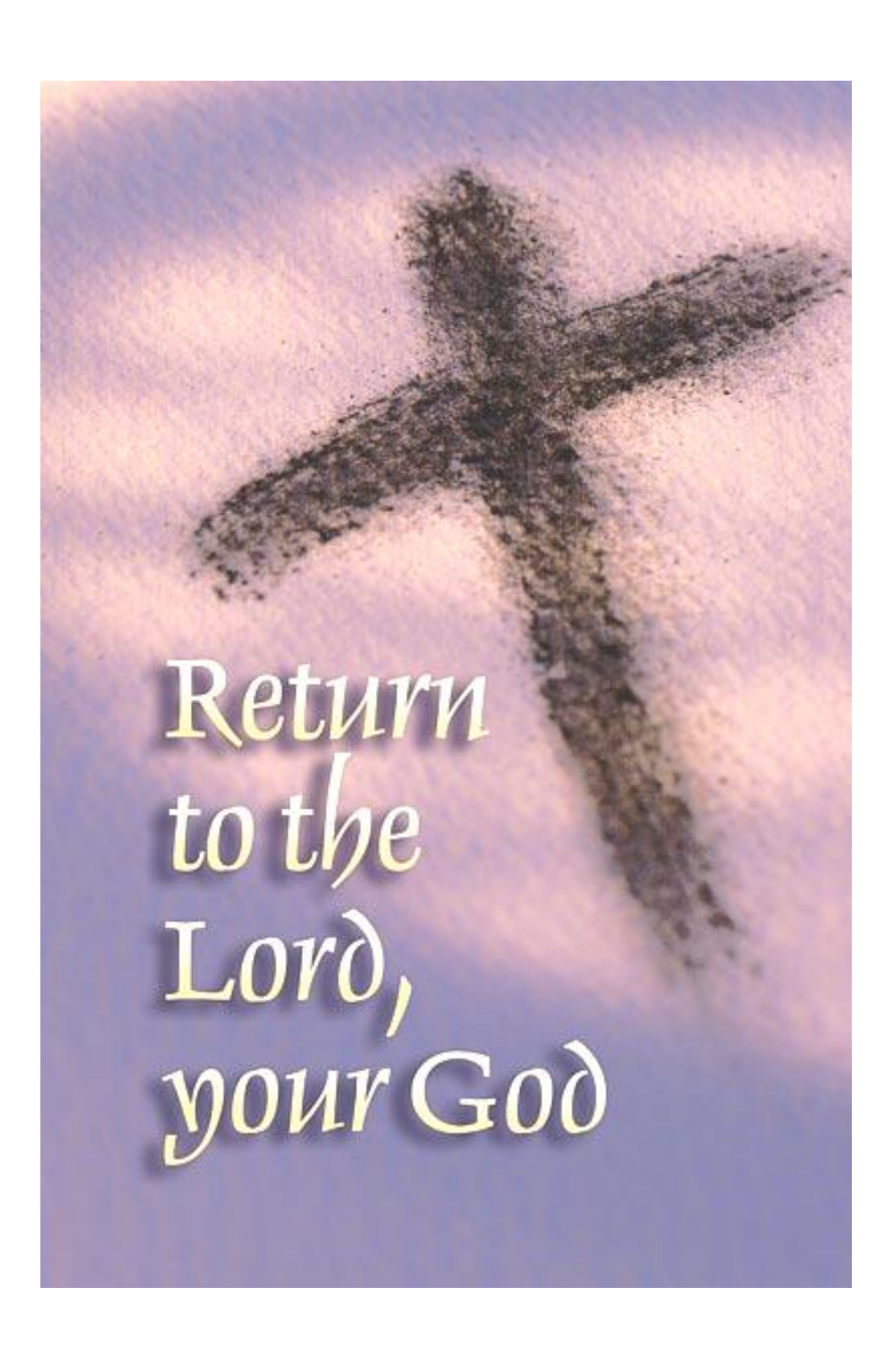
Help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
 Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bide with me.
 Come, Friend of sin - ners, thus a - bide with me.
 O Thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.

- 5 I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;
 Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
 I triumph still if Thou abide with me!
- 6 Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
 Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
 Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
 In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

POSTLUDE



HOLD ONTO JESUS



*Return
to the
Lord,
your God*