Emanuel First Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Service Times: Sunday 8:00AM & 10:30AM - Wednesday 6:30PM

Live streaming 8:00 and 10:30AM follow the prompt on the website

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

Emanuel First Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastor Paul J. Lindloff *Pastor Joel A. Voss*

Notes for Visitors:

- **Welcome!** If you are a guest this morning, please fill out a cream colored card. These cards are placed in every pew. One side of the card is for members receiving communion, the other side is for visitors. You may place the card in the collection plate. Feel free to also speak with one of the pastors to introduce yourself or ask any questions.
- **Restrooms** are located in the hallway north of the sanctuary.
- **Difficulty hearing?** Tune headphones to 103.3FM (closed circuit broadcast of service). Ask for a portable FM radio and headphones if you need some.
- **Difficulty reading small print?** Magnifying readers with light, as well as large print bulletins are available by the bookshelf in the narthex and in the ramp by the pulpit.
- **Nursery Room**: If you need a quiet place for your children, we have a room near the church offices. If you need help finding the room, please ask an usher for assistance.
- **Hymnals**: Use the blue hymn books in the rack ahead of your pew to follow along in the service. If you need help or guidance, please ask someone nearby to assist you.
- **Bibles**: Available at the bookshelf in the narthex and on the ramp by the pulpit.
- **Holy Communion**: The Sacrament of Holy Communion (The Lord's Supper) will be celebrated in our church services today. If you are not yet a member of our church, we ask you to honor our Biblical practice of close communion and refrain from coming forward until you have completed doctrinal discussions with one of our pastors. If you are a WELS member desiring to receive communion, please inform a pastor or an usher. (Please read "Attending the Lord's Supper" for more information. Pamphlets are in the Capitol Ave. entryway.)

February 22, 2026

First Sunday in Lent

The Pastors' Notes

As we journey to the cross of our Savior, Lent is a season when we engage in the struggle with our sinful nature. It is a passionate struggle, one which clearly shows our greatest needs… and how they are met in Jesus. The color for Lent is purple, meant to symbolize Jesus' suffering passion on the cross. (For a longer explanation concerning Lent, see the display screens around the building.)

During Lent we recognize our greatest needs and see them met in Christ. Today, we see Jesus meet our need as our champion. We are unable to defend ourselves against spiritual enemies. While the world stands against us, we look for ways to imitate it. We try to master our own sinful flesh, but there we recognize desires within that war against our souls. And when it comes to the devil, we fall into temptation again and again. Our impending death proves that we have sinned. We realize that what we really need is a champion. God the Father realized it too. He sent his Son to be *your* Savior. Through the obedience of the Son of God, *you* have victory over your spiritual foes.

Order Of Worship: Setting Three pg. 188

Hymns……..…….....386; 864; 842
Communion Hymns …….....551; 558
Sermon Theme…….....Matthew 4:1-11

When We Are Tempted

Prayer Of The Day

Mighty God and Father, our Lord Jesus walked into the wilderness to face the devil's temptations, but he did not succumb to Satan's lies or falter in his resolve to save the world from the prison of hell. Bolster our faith by his mighty victory that we may battle against the forces of evil with courage and confidence; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

First Reading: Genesis 3:1-15

1 Now the serpent was more clever than any wild animal which the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Has God really said, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

2 The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees of the garden, 3 but not from the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden. God has said, 'You shall not eat from it. You shall not touch it, or else you will die.'"

4 The serpent said to the woman, "You certainly will not die. 5 In fact, God knows that the day you eat from it, your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

6 When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was appealing to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took some of its fruit and ate. She gave some also to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. 7 The eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized that they were naked. They sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for their waists. 8 They heard the voice of the Lord God, who was walking around in the garden during the cooler part of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

9 The Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?"

10 The man said, "I heard your voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, so I hid myself."

11 God said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree from which I commanded you not to eat?"

12 The man said, "The woman you gave to be with me—she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

13 The Lord God said to the woman, "What have you done?"
The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

14 The Lord God said to the serpent:
Because you have done this,
you are cursed more than all the livestock,
and more than every wild animal.
You shall crawl on your belly,
and you shall eat dust all the days of your life.
15 I will put hostility between you and the woman,
and between your seed and her seed.
He will crush your head,
and you will crush his heel.

Psalm 46

Second Reading: Romans 5:12-19

12 So then, just as sin entered the world through one man and death through sin, so also death spread to all people because all sinned. 13 For even before the law was given, sin was in the world. Now, sin is not charged to one's account if there is no law, 14 and yet death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those whose sin was not like the transgression of Adam, who is a pattern of the one who was to come.

15 But the gracious gift is not like Adam's trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of this one man, it is even more certain that God's grace, and the gift given by the grace of the one man Jesus Christ, overflowed to the many!

16 And the gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin, for the judgment that followed the one trespass resulted in a verdict of condemnation, but the gracious gift that followed many trespasses resulted in a verdict of justification.

17 Indeed, if by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through the one man, it is even more certain that those who receive the overflowing grace of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ!

18 So then, just as one trespass led to a verdict of condemnation for all people, so also one righteous verdict led to life-giving justification for all people. 19 For just as through the disobedience of one man the many became sinners, so also through the obedience of one man the many will become righteous.

Gospel Acclamation

(Seasonal Verse: Lent)

We do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with your weaknesses; we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. (Hebrews 4:15)

Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

1 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the Devil. 2 After he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. 3 The Tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become bread."

4 But Jesus answered, "It is written:

Man shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes out of the mouth of God."

5 Then the Devil took him into the holy city. He placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, 6 and he said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down. For it is written:

He will command his angels concerning you. And they will lift you up in their hands,
so that you will not strike your foot against a stone."

7 Jesus said to him, "Again, it is written:

You shall not test the Lord your God."

8 Again the Devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. 9 He said to him, "I will give you all of these things, if you will bow down and worship me."

10 Then Jesus said to him, "Go away, Satan! For it is written:

Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only."

11 Then the Devil left him, and just then angels came and served him.

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