

**... we are
children
OF GOD...
heirs of
GOD
and joint heirs with
Christ...**

Romans 8:16-17, NRSV

Immanuel Lutheran Church & School

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As We Gather

The Word works! The Word of God is our only source of everlasting life. Through Isaiah, God explains that His Word is as effective as rain causing growth in plants. As David writes poetically, His care causes all the trees of the field to clap their hands. And the Word will work in our lives so that we will “go out with joy and be led out with peace,” as Isaiah puts it. Indeed, Jesus, the Word in the flesh, succeeded in giving us peace and joy by rising victorious over sin, death, and the power of the devil. As a result, Paul explains in the Epistle, we are God’s adopted children, calling out to Him, “Abba, Father.” But there is work for us to do! As we let the Word work through us, we can expect that, in spite of opposition of all sorts from the world, if we but hear and understand, we will certainly bear fruit for our heavenly Father.

✠ Preparation for Worship ✠

Hymn

34 – My Soul, Now Bless Thy Maker

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

P Beloved of God: Let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

C **Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer: we confess that we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved You above all things. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, and, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us our sins.**

P God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

C Amen.

✠ The Service of the Word ✠

Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie

Lord, have mer-cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy
on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

The musical notation consists of two staves of music in a single system. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in a simple, rhythmic style. The lyrics are placed below the notes. The second staff continues the melody and ends with a double bar line.

Glory to God in the Highest

Gloria in Excelsis

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to all peo-ple on
earth. Lord God, heav-enly king, al - might - y God and
Fa - ther: We wor - ship You, we give You thanks, we
praise You for Your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,
Lamb of God: You take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. You are seat-ed at the right hand of the

The musical notation consists of nine staves of music in a single system. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in a simple, rhythmic style. The lyrics are placed below the notes. The second staff continues the melody and ends with a double bar line. The third staff continues the melody and ends with a double bar line. The fourth staff continues the melody and ends with a double bar line. The fifth staff continues the melody and ends with a double bar line. The sixth staff continues the melody and ends with a double bar line. The seventh staff continues the melody and ends with a double bar line. The eighth staff continues the melody and ends with a double bar line. The ninth staff continues the melody and ends with a double bar line.

Fa-ther; re - ceive our prayer. For You a-lone are the
 Ho - ly One, You a-lone are the Lord, You a-lone are the
 Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir-it, in the
 glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Salutation

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

- P** Let us pray...
 ... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 55:10-13

¹⁰ “For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, And do not return there, But water the earth, And make it bring forth and bud, That it may give seed to the sower And bread to the eater, ¹¹ So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it. ¹² “For you shall go out with joy, And be led out with peace; The mountains and the hills Shall break forth into singing before you, And all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. ¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress tree, And instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree; And it shall be to the LORD for a name, For an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.”

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 65:9-13

- P** You visit the earth and water it, You greatly enrich it; The river of God is full of water;
- C** **You provide their grain, For so You have prepared it.**
- P** You water its ridges abundantly, You settle its furrows;
- C** **You make it soft with showers, You bless its growth.**
- P** You crown the year with Your goodness,
- C** **And Your paths drip with abundance.**
- P** They drop on the pastures of the wilderness,
- C** **And the little hills rejoice on every side.**
- P** The pastures are clothed with flocks; The valleys also are covered with grain;
- C** **They shout for joy, they also sing.**

Gospel Reading

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

¹ On the same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the sea. ² And great multitudes were gathered together to Him, so that He got into a boat and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore. ³ Then He spoke many things to them in parables, saying: "Behold, a sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seed fell by the wayside; and the birds came and devoured them. ⁵ Some fell on stony places, where they did not have much earth; and they immediately sprang up because they had no depth of earth. ⁶ But when the sun was up they were scorched, and because they had no root they withered away. ⁷ And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up and choked them. ⁸ But others fell on good ground and yielded a crop: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ He who has ears to hear, let him hear!" ¹⁸ "Therefore hear the parable of the sower: ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside. ²⁰ But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹ yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles. ²² Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful. ²³ But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty."

Alleluia

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.



Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le-lu - ia! These words are
writ - ten that we may believe that Je-sus is the Christ, the
Son of God. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le-lu - ia!

Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn

785 – Children of the Heavenly Father

Sermon Text

Romans 8:12-17

¹² Therefore, brethren, we are debtors—not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.” ¹⁶ The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.



Sermon

Debtors, Sons, and Heirs

Offertory

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O
 God. Re - new a right spir-it with - in me. Cast me
 not a - way from Your pres-ence. Take not Your Ho - ly
 Spir-it from me. Re - store to me the joy of Your sal-
 va - tion. Up - hold me with Your free Spir - it.

Hymn

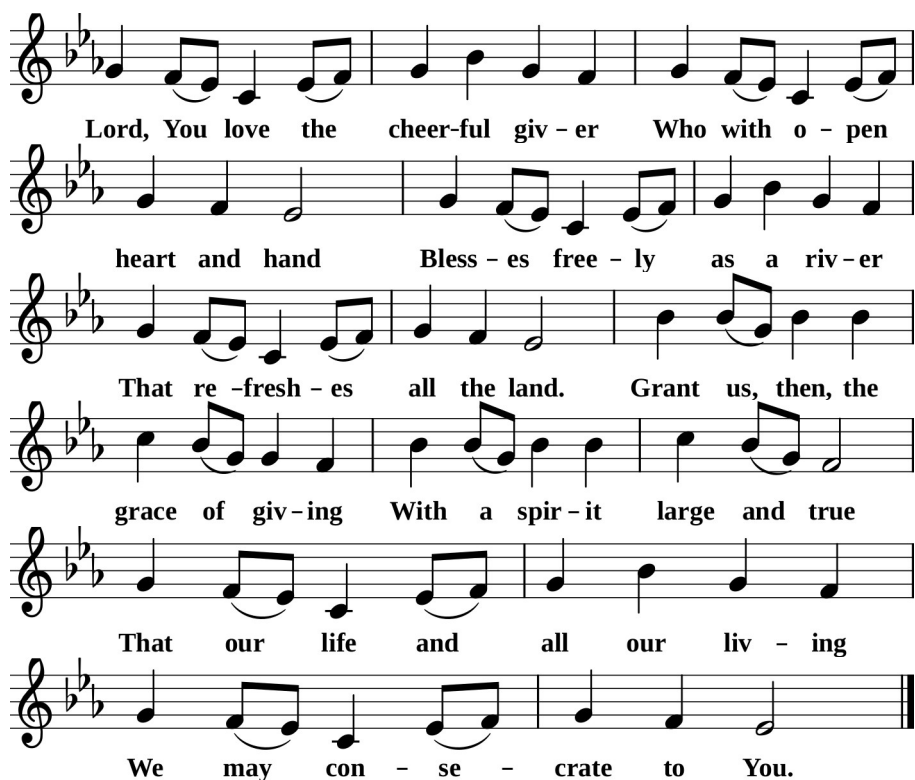
215 – Draw Us to Thee

Offering



Offering Hymn

788 (1)



Lord, You love the cheer-ful giv-er Who with o-pen
heart and hand Bless-es free-ly as a riv-er
That re-fresh-es all the land. Grant us, then, the
grace of giv-ing With a spir-it large and true
That our life and all our liv-ing
We may con-se-crate to You.

General Prayer

The 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 bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.
- C** Amen.

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✠ Announcements ✠

Upcoming Schedule

July 16	9:15 am	Bible Class
	10:15 am	Divine Service
	11:15 am	Elders’ Meeting
July 23	8:00 am	Divine Service (Orlando)
	10:15 am	Divine Service (Winter Haven)
July 30	9:15 am	Bible Class
	10:15 am	Divine Service

VBS: Thank you to everyone who helped out with VBS this past week. This year's topic was *"Thus Says the Lord" -- Prophets of the True God*. We learned about how God spoke to His people through the prophets and how He speaks to us today through His Son, Jesus Christ. We averaged 25 children per day, who enjoyed singing, crafts, games, snacks, and Bible stories. We pray that the seeds of God's Word that were planted in their hearts will grow and bear fruit in their lives.

Man Up! Weekend: The 2023 ManUp! Men's Weekend will be held September 21-24, 2023, at beautiful Wyalusing State Park near Prairie du Chien, WI. The weekend will offer strength and encouragement for men 18 and older for their personal faith, family, and fellowship at church. The weekend will include Bible study, fellowship, leadership training, team building, relationship building, worship, and many outdoor bonding activities. Register and send in your payment before August 31st for the discounted rate of \$75. Registration increases to \$150 after September 1st. The registration includes lodging and meals. You can register by going to the Man Up! website here: www.manup.clclutheran.org. and clicking on the Registration Form. Sign up today!

CLC News: Messiah Lutheran in Eau Claire, WI has called Pastor Sam Rodebaugh of Faith Lutheran, Manchester, MO, to be their third pastor. <> Mrs. Loretta Leinberger has accepted the call from Gethsemane Lutheran Church of Saginaw, MI to be its Pre-K teacher, as well as Kindergarten assistant. <> Missionary Peter Evensen has returned the call from Calvary Lutheran Church in Marquette, MI. Calvary has now called Pastor James Albrecht of St. John's in Okabena, MN.

✠ Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions ✠

July 17 - July 22

Monday: Matthew 21:28-32 – Every sin is like saying “I will not” to God. Jesus calls upon sinners to change their mind (repent) and receive the righteousness that He brings and for which John prepared the way (v 32). Some, however, while looking very religious, refuse to believe Jesus, so as to say “I will not.”

Tuesday: Acts 8:26-38 – Like one of the two sons yesterday, here is an Ethiopian man who is an outward worshiper of the true God. But when He hears the Good News of Jesus the Savior from sin, he believes and wants to be baptized. This is the work of the Holy Spirit (v 29), who wants all people to be saved.

Wednesday: Psalm 1 – Where is blessedness found? Definitely not with the wicked, sinners, or mockers. True blessedness is found with the Lord whose word declares sinners righteous in connection with the Messiah (Christ). The Lord plants the tree (v 3) and knows (watches over) the Christian's path (v6).

Thursday: Romans 3:21-26 – The righteousness that God is pleased to see in people is not something that their works (keeping the law, v 21) have produced but something that comes to us from God (v 22) through the doing and dying of Jesus Christ. This is what gives us sinners the status of “righteous ones” before God.

Friday: 1 John 1:8–2:2 – A great show of righteousness may fool many people, but the worst part of such a show is fooling ourselves. Like the son in Monday's parable, we could act like a good son (“I will go”), and not go on to see our need for Jesus' forgiveness, which brings true righteousness from God.

Saturday: Luke 18:9-14 – All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Here Jesus again reaches out to those who compared themselves to other people and thought they had some righteousness to offer God. But the one who saw his sin before God was ready to receive God's forgiveness.

ACTS OF EVANGELISM

A Traveling Seminar Presented by the
CLC Committee on Domestic Mission Fields (CDF)

What We Can Learn Today from the Early Church?

Evangelism is Simple

It points people to Jesus

Evangelism is Constant

It can be shared with anyone at anytime

Evangelism is Unique

It Involves Knowing Your Audience and Your Bible



All travel expenses for speakers are covered by the CDF. To find out more about hosting this seminar at your church, reach out to CDF member Jeff Aymond at jeff.aymond@gmail.com

