

**And the
peace of God,
which surpasses
all understanding,
will guard your
hearts and your
minds in
Christ Jesus.**

Philippians 4:7, NRSV

Immanuel Lutheran Church & School

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As We Gather

Living in the ups and downs of this mortal life, in a world opposed to Christ and His purposes, it may seem like peace is a secret that must be found to be enjoyed. There is no secret, as it were, but the peace that passes understanding is hidden—hidden in Christ. This peace is not some relative calm against the upset of the world but knowing Christ and living in His strength, comfort, forgiveness, joy, and peace amid every circumstance of life. This is not to be confused with happiness, which is hard to find and ever harder to define. No, this gift of peace means knowing with contentment the steadfast love and mercy of God given to us in Christ Jesus, His Son.

✠ Preparation for Worship ✠

Hymn

11 – Safely Through Another Week

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Opening Sentences

Psalm 146:2; Isaiah 61:10

P I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

C my soul shall exult in my God,

P for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation;

C He has covered me with the robe of righteousness.

Confession and Absolution

P Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

✠ The Service of the Word ✠

Introit

Isaiah 61:10

P I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;

C my soul shall exult in my God,

P for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;

C he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,

P as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress,

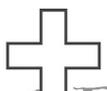
C and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

Glory be to the Father

Gloria Patri



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son
and to the Ho - ly Ghost; As it was in the be-ginning,
is now, and ev-ershall be for - ev-er more. A - men.


Gloria Patri
GLORY BE TO GOD THE FATHER

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 25:6-9

⁶ On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined. ⁷ And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. ⁸ He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. ⁹ It will be said on that day, “Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the LORD; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 23

- P** The LORD is my shepherd;
- C I shall not want.**
- P** He makes me lie down in green pastures.
- C He leads me beside still waters.**
- P** He restores my soul.
- C He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.**
- P** Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me;
- C your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**
- P** You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
- C you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.**
- P** Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
- C and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

Gospel Reading

Matthew 22:1-14

¹ And again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying, ² “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, ³ and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. ⁴ Again he sent other servants, saying, ‘Tell those who are invited, “See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.”’ ⁵ But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. ⁷ The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.’ ¹⁰ And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found,

both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests. ¹¹ “But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. ¹² And he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?’ And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

Alleluia

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



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

535 – Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing

Sermon Text

Philippians 4:4-13

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. ⁵ Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶ do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. ⁸ Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ What you have learned and received and

heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you. ¹⁰ I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. ¹¹ Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. ¹² I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. ¹³ I can do all things through him who strengthens me.



Sermon

Eternal Joy

Offertory

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from Your
pres-ence, and take not Your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -
store un-to me the joy of Your sal - va - tion; and up -
hold me with Your free spir-it. A - men.

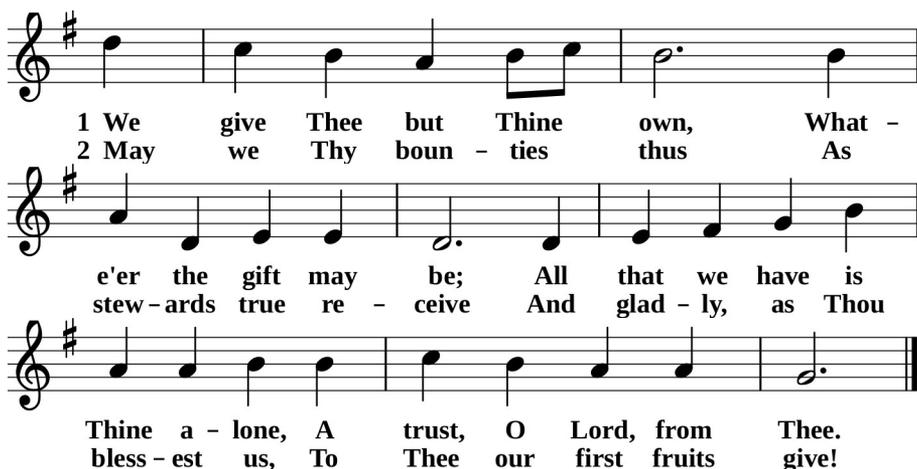
Hymn

391 – Blessed Are the Sons of God

Offering

Offering Hymn

441 (1-2)



1 We give Thee but Thine own, What -
2 May we Thy boun - ties thus As
e'er the gift may be; All that we have is
stew - ards true re - ceive And glad - ly, as Thou
Thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
bless - est us, To Thee our first fruits give!

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.

Hymn

47 – Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise

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✠ Announcements ✠

Upcoming Schedule

October 15	9:15 am	Bible Class
	10:15 am	Worship Service
	11:15 am	Board of Trustees/Church Council
October 22	8:00 am	Worship Service (Orlando)
	10:15 am	Worship Service (Winter Haven)
October 29	9:15 am	Bible Class
	10:15 am	Worship Service

Upcoming Meetings: The following is our schedule of meetings through the annual meeting in January:

- **October 15** – Board of Trustees/Church Council
- **November 5** – Quarterly Voters' Meeting
- **November 19** – Board of Education
- **December 3** – Board of Elders/Church Council
- **December 17** – Board of Trustees/Church Council
- **January 7** – Annual Voters' Meeting

MDF Shortage: When the convention approved the calling of our third foreign missionary, it determined that the funding of that missionary would come fully from the MDF for the first year. The cost of funding that missionary is about \$80,000 and has had an impact on other planned MDF projects. Currently the balance of the MDF is enough to cover the cost of our third foreign missionary for the rest of this fiscal year and a few other essential projects, but without additional funds, we will not be able to fund other planned projects. We have already put a hold on all other projects including all funding of Bibles and other Christian literature, church building assistance, and many planned outreach projects. We pray that the members of the CLC will remember this work in their prayers and their offerings that we might continue to carry out the work the LORD has set before us and which we have decided to do as a church body.

Nominations for Immanuel Professor Call: The Board of Regents for Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary invites "all pastors, professors, male teachers, and voting members of member congregations of the Church of the Lutheran Confession" (CLC Constitution) to nominate an individual or individuals to fill the vacancy which will be created by the retirement of Professor Mark Kranz at the end of the 2023-24 academic year. The position would be best served by someone who is teacher trained and has the ability to teach high school (if nominee is male or female) and

college classes (if nominee is male) primarily in social studies (history/geography), elementary education methods, and other potential disciplines commencing with the 2024-25 academic year. Those submitting nominations would need to include information regarding the nominee's educational background and teaching and/or professional experience, also indicating how the person might help our school in technology expertise, extracurricular activities, or administrative positions. Nominations are to be received by email or letter no later than midnight November 20, 2023 (letters postmarked November 10, 2023) to: Mr. James Burkhardt; 217 Windy Lane; Rockwall, TX 75087; email: jeb6217@yahoo.com.

Nominations for ILC President: The Board of Regents invites nominations for the office of President of Immanuel Lutheran College. The current term of Professor Daniel Schierenbeck concludes on June 30, 2024. All pastors, professors, male teachers, and voting members of member congregations of the CLC are entitled to nominate a man from the faculty of Immanuel Lutheran College to serve a two-year term beginning July 1, 2024. Nominations are to be received by email or letter no later than midnight November 20, 2023 (letters postmarked November 10, 2023) to: Mr. James Burkhardt; 217 Windy Lane; Rockwall, TX 75087; email: jeb6217@yahoo.com.

2024 CLC Mission Helper Trip: Applications are being accepted for the 2024 Mission Helper Trip to Africa. Find more information and apply online: www.mht.lutheranmissions.org

CLC Call News: Pastor Neal Radichel of Immanuel Lutheran in Mankato, MN has accepted the call from Messiah Lutheran of Eau Claire, WI to be their third pastor. <> Pastor Terrel Kesterson of Ascension Lutheran in Batavia, IL is considering the joint call from Calvary Lutheran of Marquette, MI and St. Peter's Lutheran of Iron River, MI. <> Pastor Em. David Baker has received and accepted the call from Resurrection Lutheran in Corpus Christi, TX to be vacancy pastor.

Fruits of Faith	October 8, 2023	Orlando: 12	WH: 20
Immanuel Home		\$1,942.25	
Building		\$150.00	
Property Improvement		\$125.00	
ILC Scholarship		\$200.00	
Tuition Grant		\$50.00	
<u>Benevolence</u>		<u>\$5.00</u>	
Total		\$2,472.25	

✠ Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions ✠

October 16 - October 21

Monday: John 9:24-34 – Jesus brought light to the eyes of a blind man, and the religious leaders wanted to discount the miracle. To him, however, it was clear, as Jesus had said, “the very works that I am doing, these testify about me that the Father has sent me” (Jn5:36). This was enough to get him thrown out.

Tuesday: John 9:35-41 – When Jesus finds the man He had healed, He blesses his new-found sight with insight, to see that Jesus truly is the Son of God, the promised Savior. Alas! Those who reject the Light of the world (Jn8:12) remain blind.

Wednesday: James 5:13-20 – James urges prayer in the name of the Lord who heals disease and sickness. Moreover the same Lord conquers death itself through the forgiveness of sins.

Thursday: Psalm 32:1-7 – David would teach us how precious is God’s forgiveness and how to receive it. It will not be obtained by silence and deceit, but by confessing our great need of it.

Friday: Matthew 9:27-31 – Jesus brings light to the eyes of two blind men, not because He wants the publicity (spotlight), but because of His great compassion for them.

Saturday: Matthew 9:32-34 – A demon-possessed man is brought to Jesus, and He drives the demon out. Those who refused to believe Jesus, however, end up blaspheming by attributing God’s work to Satan.



