



**“His master replied,  
‘Well done, good and faithful servant!  
You have been faithful with a few things;  
I will put you in charge of many things.  
Come and share your master’s happiness!’”**

**Matthew 25:23, NIV**

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**Immanuel Lutheran Church & School**

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## As We Gather

We read today about three servants. All three received a good and gracious gift from their master. Two were good and faithful. One was evil and faithless. Two reflected the goodness and faithfulness of their master. One refused to act like his master and was punished for his insolence. Consider Jesus, our good and faithful Master, and all that He has done for us and our salvation. As we follow Him, we reflect His goodness and faithfulness.

### ✠ Preparation for Worship ✠

#### Hymn

536 – Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun

#### Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

#### Opening Sentences

- P** LORD, You have been our dwelling place in all generations.  
**C** You have been our good and faithful Master.
- P** You have poured out blessings upon us.  
**C** You have given us all we need to support this body and life.
- P** We meditate on all that You have done.  
**C** We ponder the work of Your hands.
- P** On account of Your name, O Lord, preserve our lives.  
**C** In Your righteousness, bring us out of trouble.

#### Confession and Absolution

- P** Indeed, our heavenly Father has done wonderful things for us. He has given us more than we could ever ask for or imagine. Yet, there have been times when we have been ungrateful for God's gifts, times when we have been lazy and selfish with what He has given us, times when we have been unfaithful servants. Yet, our heavenly Father invites us to return to Him and ask for His forgiveness. Therefore, let us confess our sins to God our Father.

- P** Heavenly Father,
- C** we confess that we have not been faithful with all of the good gifts You have given us. We have sinned in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have failed by our inactivity. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, O Lord, that we might be restored as Your servants.
- P** God hears your confession and has promised to be with you always. Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son, Jesus Christ, to die and rise 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. We are forgiven. We are restored in Jesus.

## ✠ The Service of the Word ✠

### Introit

Psalm 143:2, 5-6, 10-11

- P** Do not enter into judgment with Your servant,
- C** in Your sight no one living is righteous.
- P** I remember the days of old; I meditate on all Your works;
- C** I muse on the work of Your hands.
- P** I spread out my hands to You;
- C** My soul longs for You like a thirsty land.
- P** Teach me to do Your will, For You are my God;
- C** Your Spirit is good. Lead me in the land of uprightness.
- P** Revive me, O LORD, for Your name's sake!
- C** For Your righteousness' sake bring my soul out of trouble.

### 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-gin-ning,

is now, and ev-er shall be for - ev-er more. A - men.

## Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie

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

The musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves. The first staff has a melody starting on G4, moving to A4, then B4, and ending on G4. The second staff has a melody starting on G4, moving to A4, then B4, and ending on G4. The lyrics are written below the notes.

## Glory to God in the Highest

Gloria in Excelsis – 238 (1)

All glory be to God a - lone, For - ev-er more the Highest One,  
Who doth our sin-ful race be - friend And grace and peace to  
us ex-tend. A-mong man - kind may His good will All  
hearts with deep thanks - giv - ing fill.

The musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five staves. The first staff has a melody starting on G4, moving to A4, then B4, and ending on G4. The second staff has a melody starting on G4, moving to A4, then B4, and ending on G4. The third staff has a melody starting on G4, moving to A4, then B4, and ending on G4. The fourth staff has a melody starting on G4, moving to A4, then B4, and ending on G4. The fifth staff has a melody starting on G4, moving to A4, then B4, and ending on G4. The lyrics are written below the notes.

## 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

Zephaniah 1:7-16

<sup>7</sup> Be silent in the presence of the Lord GOD; For the day of the LORD is at hand, For the LORD has prepared a sacrifice; He has invited His guests.  
<sup>8</sup> “And it shall be, In the day of the LORD’s sacrifice, That I will punish the princes and the king’s children, And all such as are clothed with foreign apparel. <sup>9</sup> In the same day I will punish All those who leap over the threshold, Who fill their masters’ houses with violence and deceit. <sup>10</sup> “And there shall be on that day,” says the LORD, “The sound of a mournful cry from the Fish Gate, A wailing from the Second Quarter, And a loud crashing from the hills. <sup>11</sup> Wail, you inhabitants of Maktesh! For all the merchant people are cut down; All those who handle money are cut off. <sup>12</sup> “And it shall come to pass at that time That I will search Jerusalem with lamps, And punish the men Who are settled in complacency, Who say in their heart, ‘The LORD will not do good, Nor will He do evil.’ <sup>13</sup> Therefore their goods shall become booty, And their houses a desolation; They shall build houses, but not inhabit them; They shall plant vineyards, but not drink their wine.”  
<sup>14</sup> The great day of the LORD is near; It is near and hastens quickly. The noise of the day of the LORD is bitter; There the mighty men shall cry out.  
<sup>15</sup> That day is a day of wrath, A day of trouble and distress, A day of devastation and desolation, A day of darkness and gloominess, A day of clouds and thick darkness, <sup>16</sup> A day of trumpet and alarm Against the fortified cities And against the high towers.

## Psalm of the Day

Psalm 90:1-12

- P** LORD, You have been our dwelling place  
**C** in all generations.
- P** Before the mountains were brought forth, Or ever You had formed the earth and the world,  
**C** Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.
- P** You turn man to destruction,  
**C** And say, “Return, O children of men.”
- P** For a thousand years in Your sight  
**C** Are like yesterday when it is past, And like a watch in the night.
- P** You carry them away like a flood; They are like a sleep.  
**C** In the morning they are like grass which grows up:
- P** In the morning it flourishes and grows up;  
**C** In the evening it is cut down and withers.
- P** For we have been consumed by Your anger,  
**C** And by Your wrath we are terrified.
- P** You have set our iniquities before You,  
**C** Our secret sins in the light of Your countenance.

- P** For all our days have passed away in Your wrath;  
**C** **We finish our years like a sigh.**  
**P** The days of our lives are seventy years; And if by reason of strength they are eighty years,  
**C** **Yet their boast is only labor and sorrow; For it is soon cut off, and we fly away.**  
**P** Who knows the power of Your anger?  
**C** **For as the fear of You, so is Your wrath.**  
**P** So teach us to number our days,  
**C** **That we may gain a heart of wisdom.**

## Epistle Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

<sup>1</sup> But concerning the times and the seasons, brethren, you have no need that I should write to you. <sup>2</sup> For you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup> For when they say, "Peace and safety!" then sudden destruction comes upon them, as labor pains upon a pregnant woman. And they shall not escape. <sup>4</sup> But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. <sup>5</sup> You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. <sup>6</sup> Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober. <sup>7</sup> For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. <sup>8</sup> But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup> For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup> who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him. <sup>11</sup> Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.

## 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!

## 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

611 (1-2, 6-7) – The Day is Surely Drawing Near

## Sermon Text

Matthew 25:14-30

<sup>14</sup> “For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. <sup>15</sup> And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. <sup>16</sup> Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. <sup>17</sup> And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. <sup>18</sup> But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord’s money. <sup>19</sup> After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup> “So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, ‘Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.’ <sup>21</sup> His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’ <sup>22</sup> He also who had received two talents came and said, ‘Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.’ <sup>23</sup> His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’ <sup>24</sup> “Then he who had received the one talent came and said, ‘Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. <sup>25</sup> And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.’ <sup>26</sup> “But his lord answered and said to him, ‘You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. <sup>27</sup> So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with

interest.<sup>28</sup> So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents.<sup>29</sup> 'For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away.'<sup>30</sup> And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'



*Sermon*

## The Good and Faithful Master

### 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.

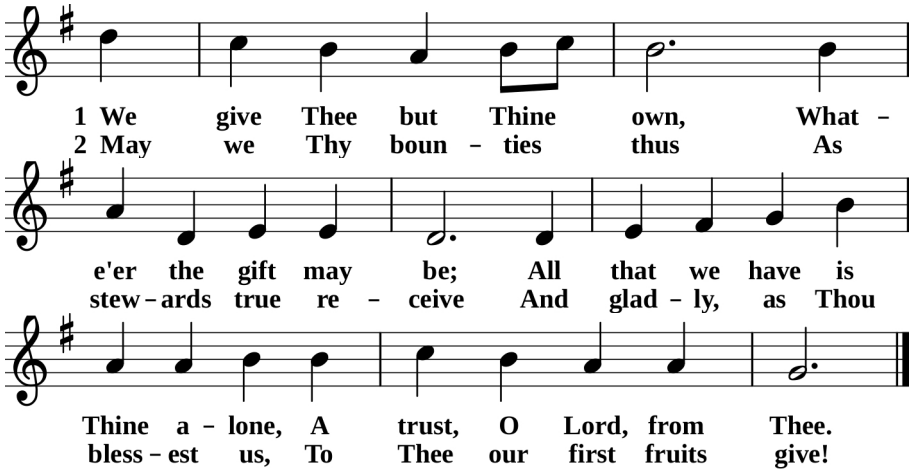
### Hymn

395 (1-2, 7-8) – O God, Thou Faithful 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

50 – Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

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## ✝ Announcements ✝

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### Upcoming Schedule

|             |          |                                   |
|-------------|----------|-----------------------------------|
| November 19 | 9:15 am  | Bible Class                       |
|             | 10:15 am | Worship Service                   |
| November 23 | 10:15 am | Thanksgiving Day Worship Service  |
| November 26 | 8:00 am  | Worship Service (Orlando)         |
|             | 10:15 am | Worship Service (Winter Haven)    |
| December 3  | 9:15 am  | Bible Class                       |
|             | 10:15 am | Worship Service w/ Holy Communion |
|             | 11:30 am | Board of Elders/Church Council    |

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

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

**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](mailto: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](http://www.mht.lutheranmissions.org)

**CLC Call News:** Pastor Luke Bernthal of St. Stephen's Lutheran of Mt. View, CA has returned the call from Immanuel Lutheran of Mankato, MN. <> Pastor David Reim of St. Paul Lutheran of Vernon, British Columbia, has returned the calls from Calvary Lutheran of Marquette, MI, and St. Peter's Lutheran of Iron River, MI.

## ✠ Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions ✠

November 20 - November 25

**Monday: John 10:23-30** – Unbelief sometimes pretends that Jesus has not claimed to be the Christ of God. Jesus points to His works in addition to His Word. Both show that it is He who gives eternal life and is one with God the Father.

**Tuesday: 1 Thessalonians 5:14-24** – As Jesus' works testified that He is the Christ (Jn10:25), so the works that God accomplishes in the sanctified lives of His believers also glorify the Son and the Father who sent Him.

**Wednesday: Psalm 39** – As we approach the end of another year, we are reminded again of the brief time allotted to us in this life. Those suffering afflictions also face similar thoughts. In this short life, God's enduring goodness remains the source of our solid hope (v7).

**Thursday: John 6:24-29** – We have so much more to be thankful for than the food which spoils (v27). We also have Him on whom God has placed His seal of approval and who is worthy of our trust and thanks for all eternity.

**Friday: 2 Corinthians 9:6-11** – The apostle calls upon us to show God's generosity toward us by being generous to others. Because His grace overflowed to us, it will overflow to others through us, resulting in the thanksgiving of many.

**Saturday: Psalm 34:2-9** – David invites us to proclaim the greatness of the Lord with him. That greatness consists in His being a Refuge at all times, and letting us taste His sweet deliverance. Thanks be to God!