

For every
species of beast
and bird, of reptile
and sea creature, can
be tamed ... but no
one can tame the
tongue ...

James 3:7-8, NRSV

Immanuel Lutheran Church & School

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As We Gather

Our tongues, though small, wield immense power in our lives and relationships. Like a bit guiding a horse or a rudder steering a ship, our words can direct the course of our days. Yet, how often do we stumble, letting our tongues spark fires of discord or pain? Today, we explore the wisdom of James on taming this mighty force within us. More importantly, we turn to Christ, whose perfect words bring comfort and forgiveness, and whose Spirit empowers us to use our tongues for blessing rather than cursing.

✠ Preparation for Worship ✠

Hymn

17 – Oh, Worship the King

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.

Glory to God in the Highest

Gloria in Excelsis

1 To God on high be glo-ry And peace to all the earth, For
2 O Lamb of God ex - alt-ed, You take all sin a - way; Ex-
God has shown His fa - vor In Je - sus' ho - ly birth! Al -
tend to us Your mer - cy and hear us as we pray. With
might - y God and Fa - ther, Our hum - ble thanks we
God the Ho - ly Spir - it, at God the Fa - ther's
bring; We wor - ship You, we bless You, Lord
throne, You reign, O Christ, for - ev - er, For
God, our heav'n - ly King.
You are Lord a - lone!

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 50:4-10

⁴ “The Lord GOD has given Me The tongue of the learned, That I should know how to speak A word in season to him who is weary. He awakens Me morning by morning, He awakens My ear To hear as the learned. ⁵ The Lord GOD has opened My ear; And I was not rebellious, Nor did I turn away. ⁶ I gave My back to those who struck Me, And My cheeks to those who plucked out the beard; I did not hide My face from shame and spitting. ⁷ “For the Lord GOD will help Me; Therefore I will not be disgraced; Therefore I have set My face like a flint, And I know that I will not be ashamed. ⁸ He is near who justifies Me; Who will contend with Me? Let us stand together. Who is My adversary? Let him come near Me. ⁹ Surely the Lord GOD will help Me; Who is he who will condemn Me? Indeed they will all grow old like a garment; The moth will eat them up. ¹⁰ “Who among you fears the LORD? Who obeys the voice of His Servant? Who walks in darkness And has no light? Let him trust in the name of the LORD And rely upon his God.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 116:1-9

P I love the LORD, because He has heard

C My voice and my supplications.

P Because He has inclined His ear to me,

C Therefore I will call upon Him as long as I live.

P The pains of death surrounded me, And the pangs of Sheol laid hold of me;

C I found trouble and sorrow.

P Then I called upon the name of the LORD:

C “O LORD, I implore You, deliver my soul!”

P Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;

C Yes, our God is merciful.

P The LORD preserves the simple;

C I was brought low, and He saved me.

P Return to your rest, O my soul,

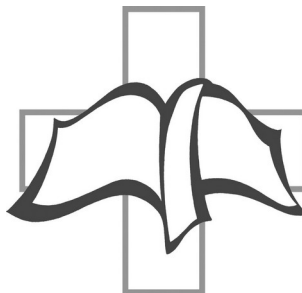
C For the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.

- P** For You have delivered my soul from death,
- C** **My eyes from tears, And my feet from falling.**
- P** I will walk before the LORD
- C** **In the land of the living.**

Gospel Reading

Mark 9:14-29

¹⁴ And when He came to the disciples, He saw a great multitude around them, and scribes disputing with them. ¹⁵ Immediately, when they saw Him, all the people were greatly amazed, and running to Him, greeted Him. ¹⁶ And He asked the scribes, “What are you discussing with them?” ¹⁷ Then one of the crowd answered and said, “Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit. ¹⁸ And wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid. So I spoke to Your disciples, that they should cast it out, but they could not.” ¹⁹ He answered him and said, “O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to Me.” ²⁰ Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth. ²¹ So He asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?” And he said, “From childhood. ²² And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.” ²³ Jesus said to him, “If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes.” ²⁴ Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!” ²⁵ When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!” ²⁶ Then the spirit cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, “He is dead.” ²⁷ But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. ²⁸ And when He had come into the house, His disciples asked Him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?” ²⁹ So He said to them, “This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting.”



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

395 (1-4, 7-8) – O God, Thou Faithful God

Sermon Text

James 3:1-12

¹ My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment. ² For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body. ³ Indeed, we put bits in horses' mouths that they may obey us, and we turn their whole body. ⁴ Look also at ships: although they are so large and are driven by fierce winds, they are turned by a very small rudder wherever the pilot desires. ⁵ Even so the tongue is a little member and boasts great things. See how great a forest a little fire kindles! ⁶ And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles

the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell. ⁷ For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and creature of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by mankind. ⁸ But no man can tame the tongue. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹ With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the similitude of God. ¹⁰ Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be so. ¹¹ Does a spring send forth fresh water and bitter from the same opening? ¹² Can a fig tree, my brethren, bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Thus no spring yields both salt water and fresh.



Sermon

The Small But Powerful Tongue

I. The Power to Wound

II. The Power to Heal

Offertory

Cre-ate 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. Take not Your Ho - ly
 Spir-it from me. Re store to me the joy of Your sal -
 va - tion. Up - hold with Your Spir - it free.

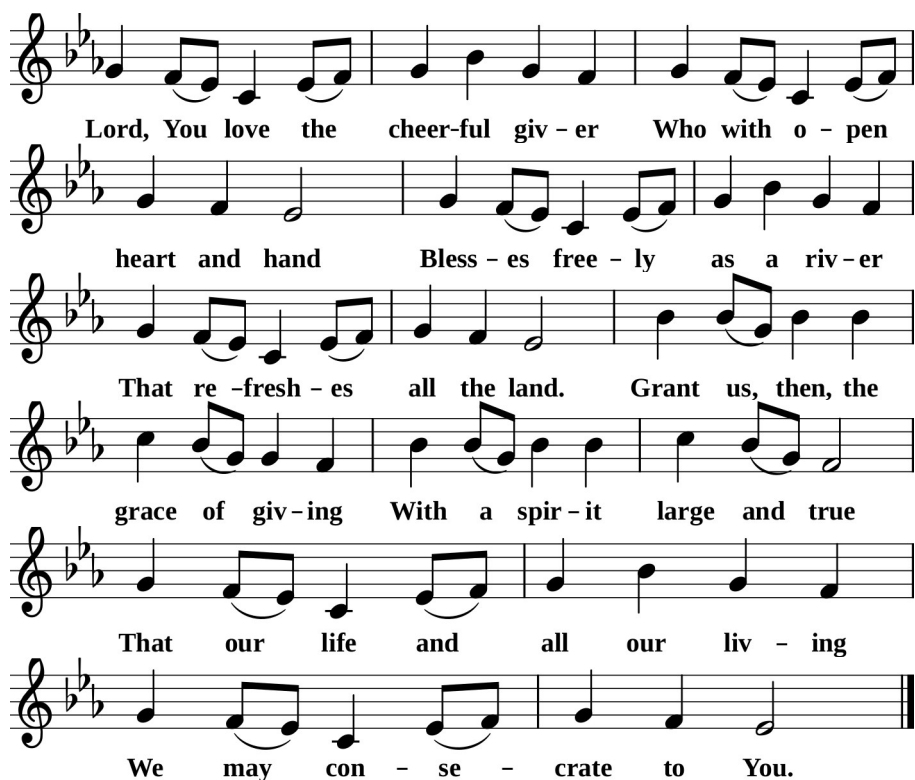
Hymn

361 – O Jesus, King Most Wonderful

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.

Hymn

47 – Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise

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✠ Announcements ✠

Upcoming Schedule

September 15	9:15 am	Bible Class/Sunday School
	10:15 am	Worship Service
September 15-18		Pastor in Eau Claire for Mission Board Meetings and Coordinating Council
September 22	8:00 am	Worship Service (Orlando)
	9:15 am	Sunday School
	10:15 am	Worship Service (Winter Haven)
September 27	10:30 am	Mornings with Mommy
September 29	9:15 am	Bible Class/Sunday School
	10:15 am	Worship Service
	11:30 am	Sunday School Teachers' Meeting

Upcoming Meetings: Here is a schedule of our upcoming meetings:

- **October 6** – Church Council
- **November 3** – Quarterly Voters' Meeting
- **December 1** – Education/Elders/Trustees

Looking Forward to Next Sunday: Next Sunday, our sermon will be based on Mark 9:30-37. We'll explore the concept of greatness through God's eyes. Jesus' teaching on this subject will challenge our worldly notions of power and status and reveal where true greatness lies. As we reflect on Jesus' example of ultimate service through His sacrifice, we'll be inspired to reconsider our own attitudes toward greatness.

Mornings with Mommy: Our first Mornings with Mommy program was held this past Friday and was a great success! Ten kids (ages 1-5) and 9 moms/dads enjoyed an apple-themed lesson, followed by crafts and free play time on the new toddler toys purchased with the grant from the CLC mission board. Special thanks to Ms. Katie and Mr. Bernthal for their help with this week's prep, Kelly Kuehne for snacks, and again to the Kuehne's for the new shade awning.

We are still looking for ladies to volunteer to help with check-in and setup/cleanup at a session this semester—9:30-12:30. The remaining sessions are September 27, October 25, November 8 and 22, and December 13 and the volunteer time frame is 9:30-12:30. Talk to Kate if you can volunteer for one of the sessions.

CLC Call News: Pastor Samuel Rodebaugh of Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO has accepted the call to St. John’s Lutheran Church, Okabena, MN following Pastor James Albrecht’s retirement. <> Pastor Zachary Sippert will be installed at Grace Ev. Lutheran Church, Sleepy Eye, MN on September 29, 2024. <> Pastor Drew Naumann of Trinity Ev. Lutheran, Spokane, WA has received the call to St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School, Mountain View, CA. <> Pastor Emeritus Mark Gullerud has been called and has accepted the call to serve as vacancy pastor of St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School, Mountain View, CA beginning October 15, 2024. <> Pastor Timothy Wheaton of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Loveland, CO has announced his retirement from the ministry on September 29, 2024.

Fruits of Faith		September 8, 2024	Attendance: WH – 35, ORL – 9	
<u>Immanuel Lutheran Church</u>		<u>Church of the Lutheran Confession</u>		
<i>General Budget</i>		<i>General Budget</i>		
\$1,203.00	General Budget	\$5.00	CLC General Budget	
\$1,423.00	Weekly Need	\$57.69	Weekly Need	
-\$220.00	-Under / +Over	-\$52.69	-Under / +Over	
\$54,800.43	Year to Date Offerings	\$2,505.00	Year to Date Offerings	
\$51,228.00	Year to Date Need	\$2,076.84	Year to Date Need	
+\$3,572.43	Year to Date (+/-)	+\$428.16	Year to Date (+/-)	
<i>Non-Budgetary</i>		<i>Non-Budgetary</i>		
	Building Fund		ILC Student Aid Fund	
\$5.00	Property Improvement		ILC Building Fund	
	ILC Scholarship Fund		ILC Improvement Fund	
	Tuition Grant		Mission Development (MDF)	
\$40.00	Benevolence Fund		Project Kinship	
	Outreach		ILC Tour Choir	
	School Fund		Spokesman/Daily Rest	

✠ Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions ✠

September 16-21

Monday: Matthew 25:14-30 – The Lord works in His kingdom through His faithful servants. Entrusted with different gifts, different results are expected, but he who refuses to use his gift is actually striving against his Master.

Tuesday: 1 Thessalonians 5:14-24 – In closing his letter to the Thessalonian Christians, Paul encourages them to work hard, help one another, and continue in the Spirit. “The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it” (verse 24).

Wednesday: 1 Kings 17:17-24 – The “man of God” (Elijah) uses his connection with God to help the widow who is sharing her home and sustenance with him. The life of the widow’s son is restored and Elijah gives him back to his mother.

Thursday: Matthew 21:33-46 – In a parable Jesus shows how the leaders in God’s vineyard have used their positions for their own purposes. The leaders understand His message and want to arrest Him, but fear the people.

Friday: Ephesians 5:15-21 – The apostle is urging the Ephesian Christians to bear fruit for the Lord in their lives. Making the most of the time and not losing control, they are called to build one another up in reverence for Christ.

Saturday: 1 Peter 2:3-9 – Peter quotes the same passage that his Master quoted in Thursday’s reading. As followers of the Living Stone, God makes us His living stones, useful for His purposes. Christ is the Cornerstone and makes us “chosen people, a royal priesthood, etc.”



