



*Come near
to God and
he will come
near to you.*

James 4:8, NIV



Immanuel Lutheran Church & School

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As We Gather

There are only two ways to live: by the “wisdom” of the world or by the wisdom of God. In today’s epistle reading, James condemns the worldly pattern of selfishness, deception, hurtful words, and other evil behaviors. As Christians, we, too, struggle with such sins and are even tempted to present ourselves as holier than others. How different is the wisdom of God! He has purified us in Christ and freed us from the evil of this world. We now walk in the works He has prepared for us to do.

✠ Preparation for Worship ✠

Hymn

235 (1-2, 8) – O Holy Spirit, Enter In

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

P God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

C **If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P Let us, therefore, confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus’ sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.**

P God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

C Amen.

✠ The Service of the Word ✠

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.

Gloria to God in the Highest

Gloria in Excelsis

1 Glory be to God in heav - en, Peace to those He
2 On - ly Son of God the Fa - ther, Lamb who takes our
loves so well. On the earth let all His peo - ple
sin a - way, Now with Him in tri - umph seat - ed
Speak His grace, His won - ders tell:
For Your mer - cy, Lord, we pray:
Lord, we praise You for high Your glo - ry,
Je - sus Christ, most high and ho - ly,
Might - y Fa - ther, heav - en's King; Hear our joy - ful
Sav - ior You are God a - lone In the glo - ry
ad - o - ra - tion And ac - cept the thanks we bring.
of the Fa - ther with the Spir - it, Three in One!

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

Jeremiah 11:18-20

¹⁸ Now the LORD gave me knowledge of it, and I know it; for You showed me their doings. ¹⁹ But I was like a docile lamb brought to the slaughter; and I did not know that they had devised schemes against me, saying, "Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, and let us cut him off from the land of the living, that his name may be remembered no more." ²⁰ But, O LORD of hosts, You who judge righteously, Testing the mind and the heart, Let me see Your vengeance on them, For to You I have revealed my cause.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 54

P Save me, O God, by Your name,

C And vindicate me by Your strength.

P Hear my prayer, O God;

C Give ear to the words of my mouth.

P For strangers have risen up against me, And oppressors have sought after my life;

C They have not set God before them.

P Behold, God is my helper;

C The Lord is with those who uphold my life.

P He will repay my enemies for their evil.

C Cut them off in Your truth.

P I will freely sacrifice to You;

C I will praise Your name, O LORD, for it is good.

P For He has delivered me out of all trouble;

C And my eye has seen its desire upon my enemies.

Gospel Reading

Mark 9:30-37

³⁰ Then they departed from there and passed through Galilee, and He did not want anyone to know it. ³¹ For He taught His disciples and said to them, “The Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him. And after He is killed, He will rise the third day.” ³² But they did not understand this saying, and were afraid to ask Him. ³³ Then He came to Capernaum. And when He was in the house He asked them, “What was it you disputed among yourselves on the road?” ³⁴ But they kept silent, for on the road they had disputed among themselves who would be the greatest. ³⁵ And He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “If anyone desires to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all.” ³⁶ Then He took a little child and set him in the midst of them. And when He had taken him in His arms, He said to them, ³⁷ “Whoever receives one of these little children in My name receives Me; and whoever receives Me, receives not Me but Him who sent Me.”

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

381 – I Know My Faith is Founded

¹³ Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom. ¹⁴ But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth. ¹⁵ This wisdom does not descend from above, but is earthly, sensual, demonic. ¹⁶ For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there. ¹⁷ But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. ¹⁸ Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace. ¹ Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members? ² You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. ³ You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures. ⁴ Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. ⁵ Or do you think that the Scripture says in vain, “The Spirit who dwells in us yearns jealously”? ⁶ But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: “God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.” ⁷ Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. ⁸ Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹ Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.



Sermon

The Pursuit of Happiness

I. According to the Wisdom of the World

II. According to the Wisdom of God

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



presence, 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

402 – O God, Forsake Me Not

Offering

Offering Hymn

443 (1, 8)



1 O Lord of heav'n and earth and sea, To
 2 To Thee, from whom we all de-ri-ve Our
 Thee all praise and our glo-ry be. How
 life, our gifts, our pow'r to give. Oh,
 shall we show our love to Thee, Who giv-est all?
 may we ev-er with Thee live, Who giv-est all!



Deo Gratias

THANKS BE TO GOD

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

430 (1-3, 8) – What Is the World to Me

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✝ Announcements ✝

Upcoming Schedule

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
October 6	9:15 am	Bible Class/Sunday School
	10:15 am	Worship Service w/ Holy Communion Mission Festival (School Children Sing)
	11:30 am	Potluck/Church Council

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, we'll explore the power of prayer in our daily lives. We'll delve into James 5:13-20, which offers guidance on when and how to pray. Whether you're facing challenges, celebrating joys, or battling illness, this passage provides insight into the transformative nature of prayer. We'll discuss how prayer can strengthen our faith, bring healing, and even impact the world around us.

Mission Festival: Our annual Mission Festival is October 6. The school children will sing during the worship service. There will be a potluck meal following the worship service.

CLC Call News: 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 Daub of Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Hecla, SD has received the call to serve as vacancy pastor of Redeemer Ev. Lutheran Church, Bowdle, SD. <> Pastor Timothy Daub has also received the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO.<> Pastor Zachary Sippert will be installed at Grace Ev. Lutheran Church, Sleepy Eye, MN on September 29, 2024. <> Pastor Tom Schuetze has received and accepted the call to serve as vacancy pastor of Peace Lutheran Church, Loveland, CO following Pastor Timothy Wheaton's retirement 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>		
\$1,282.00	General Budget	\$0.00	CLC General Budget	
\$1,423.00	Weekly Need	\$57.69	Weekly Need	
-\$141.00	-Under / +Over	-\$57.69	-Under / +Over	
\$56,082.43	Year to Date Offerings	\$2,505.00	Year to Date Offerings	
\$52,651.00	Year to Date Need	\$2,134.53	Year to Date Need	
+\$3,431.43	Year to Date (+/-)	+\$370.47	Year to Date (+/-)	
<i>Non-Budgetary</i>		<i>Non-Budgetary</i>		
	Building Fund		ILC Student Aid Fund	
	Property Improvement		ILC Building Fund	
	ILC Scholarship Fund		ILC Improvement Fund	
	Tuition Grant		Mission Development (MDF)	
	Benevolence Fund		Project Kinship	
	Outreach		ILC Tour Choir	
	School Fund		Spokesman/Daily Rest	

✠ Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions ✠

September 23-28

Monday: Luke 10:38-42 – While it was not wrong to be busy serving Jesus and His disciples, it should not distract us from the Word of God. “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God” (4:4).

Tuesday: James 3:13-18 – Those who have the wisdom that comes from above do things in wise humility. Envy and selfish ambition will not rule the day, but peacefulness, mercy, and good fruits.

Wednesday: Proverbs 16:1-9 – Verses 1 and 9 are the gate-posts of this wisdom from on high. People plan, but God establishes. “Commit what you do to the Lord, and your plans will be established” (verse 3).

Thursday: Jeremiah 9:23-24 – More valuable than human wisdom, strength, and riches is to know the Lord, “who shows mercy, justice, and righteousness on earth” (verse 24).

Friday: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 – Wisdom from above teaches us to have a light grip on the things of this world, “for the way of life that belongs to this world is passing away” (verse 31). Give me Jesus!

Saturday: Philippians 3:8-14 – Knowing Jesus is worth far more to the apostle than everything in the world. In connection with Jesus, Paul has the righteousness that comes from God by faith (verse 9). This brings the prize that has become his goal: the resurrection from the dead!


Sola Scriptura

SCRIPTURE ALONE

