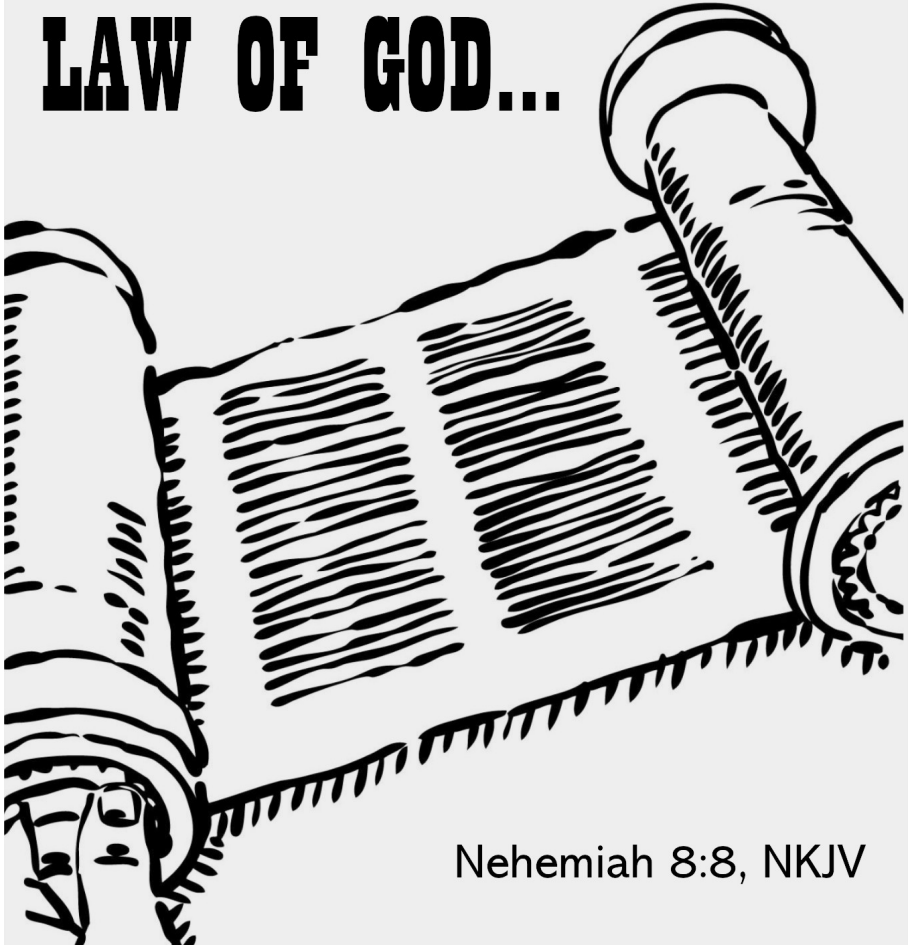


So they read distinctly
from the **BOOK**
in the
LAW OF GOD...



Nehemiah 8:8, NKJV



Immanuel Lutheran Church & School

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As We Gather

Today we gather, as God's people have throughout history, to hear and respond to His life-giving Word. In Nehemiah 8, we see the Israelites standing together, attentive to the reading of the Law, moved to tears by its truth, and strengthened by its hope. Their hearts were reminded of God's faithfulness and grace. As we worship, may the Word of the Lord convict us, comfort us, and fill us with joy. Let us rejoice in the truth that "the joy of the Lord is our strength," a joy rooted in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Redeemer.

✠ Preparation for Worship ✠

Hymn

1 – Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

Invocation

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

Confession and Absolution

- P** Beloved in the Lord! 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.
- P** Our help is in the name of the LORD,
C **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"
C **and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.**
- P** Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- C** **O most merciful God, You have given Your only-begotten Son to die for us; have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You, and of Your will, and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only-begotten Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To all who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God, and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved.

P Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C Amen.

✠ The Service of the Word ✠

Introit

Psalm 102:18-22

P This will be written for the generation to come,

C **That a people yet to be created may praise the LORD.**

P For He looked down from the height of His sanctuary;

C **From heaven the LORD viewed the earth,**

P To hear the groaning of the prisoner,

C **To release those appointed to death,**

P To declare the name of the LORD in Zion,

C **And His praise in Jerusalem,**

P When the peoples are gathered together,

C **And the kingdoms, to serve the LORD.**

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 consists of two staves in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and homophonic, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff covers the first line of lyrics, and the second staff covers the second line. The piece ends with a double bar line.

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 consists of four staves in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and homophonic, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff covers the first line of lyrics, the second and third staves cover the second line, and the fourth staff covers the third line. The piece ends with a double bar line.

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.

Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

¹² For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. ¹³ For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. ¹⁴ For in fact the body is not one member but many. ¹⁵ If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I am not of the body,” is it therefore not of the body? ¹⁶ And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I am not of the body,” is it therefore not of the body? ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would be the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where would be the smelling? ¹⁸ But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased. ¹⁹ And if they were all one member, where would the body be? ²⁰ But now indeed there are many members, yet one body. ²¹ And the eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you”; nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” ²² No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary. ²³ And those members of the body which we think to be less honorable, on these we bestow greater honor; and our unpresentable parts have greater modesty, ²⁴ but our presentable parts have no need. But God composed the body, having given greater honor to that part which lacks it, ²⁵ that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another. ²⁶ And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it. ²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually. ²⁸ And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles? ³⁰ Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹ But earnestly desire the best gifts.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 19:7-14

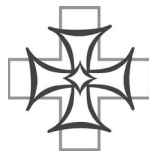
- P** The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul;
- C** **The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;**
- P** The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;
- C** **The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;**
- P** The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever;
- C** **The judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.**
- P** More to be desired are they than gold, Yea, than much fine gold;
- C** **Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.**
- P** Moreover by them Your servant is warned,
- C** **And in keeping them there is great reward.**

- P** Who can understand his errors?
- C** **Cleanse me from secret faults.**
- P** Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins; Let them not have dominion over me.
- C** **Then I shall be blameless, And I shall be innocent of great transgression.**
- P** Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
- C** **Be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer.**

Gospel Reading

Luke 4:16-30

¹⁶ So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. ¹⁷ And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written: ¹⁸ “The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; ¹⁹ To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD.” ²⁰ Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. ²¹ And He began to say to them, “Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.” ²² So all bore witness to Him, and marveled at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth. And they said, “Is this not Joseph’s son?” ²³ He said to them, “You will surely say this proverb to Me, ‘Physician, heal yourself! Whatever we have heard done in Capernaum, do also here in Your country.’” ²⁴ Then He said, “Assuredly, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own country. ²⁵ But I tell you truly, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a great famine throughout all the land; ²⁶ but to none of them was Elijah sent except to Zarephath, in the region of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. ²⁷ And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Elisha the prophet, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.” ²⁸ So all those in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, ²⁹ and rose up and thrust Him out of the city; and they led Him to the brow of the hill on which their city was built, that they might throw Him down over the cliff. ³⁰ Then passing through the midst of them, He went His way.



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

294 – O Word of God Incarnate

Sermon Text

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

¹ Now all the people gathered together as one man in the open square that was in front of the Water Gate; and they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded Israel. ² So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly of men and women and all who could hear with understanding on the first day of the seventh month. ³ Then he read from it in the open square that was in front of the Water Gate from morning until midday, before the men and women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. ⁵ And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. ⁶ And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God. Then all the people answered, "Amen, Amen!" while lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. ⁸ So they read distinctly from the book, in the Law of God; and they gave the sense, and helped them to understand the reading. ⁹ And Nehemiah, who was the governor, Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do

not mourn nor weep.” For all the people wept, when they heard the words of the Law. ¹⁰ Then he said to them, “Go your way, eat the fat, drink the sweet, and send portions to those for whom nothing is prepared; for this day is holy to our Lord. Do not sorrow, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”



Sermon

The Joy of the LORD is Your Strength

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

296 – Speak, O Lord, Thy Servant Heareth

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 - rive Our
Thee all praise and 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!

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

748 – Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

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✠ Announcements ✠

Upcoming Schedule

January 26	8:00 am	Worship Service (Orlando)
	9:15 am	Sunday School
	10:15 am	Worship Service (Winter Haven)
February 2	9:15 am	Sunday School/Bible Class
	10:15 am	Worship Service w/ Holy Communion
	11:30 am	Education/Elders Meetings
February 9	8:00 am	Worship Service (Orlando)
	9:15 am	Sunday School
	10:15 am	Worship Service (Winter Haven)

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

- **February 2** – Education/Elders
- **March 2** – Trustees/Church Council
- **April 6** – Quarterly Voters’ Meeting

In Our Prayers: Please keep our shut-in members in your prayers: Don Beymer, Bob & Joan Doriot, Paulette Galstad, Johanna Jaehnigen, David & Elsie Kleinschmidt, Shirley Rosenberry, and Mike Sheffield that the Lord may comfort and strengthen them.

“The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.” (James 5:16)

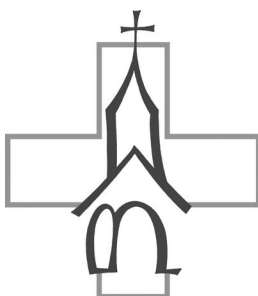
Looking Forward to Next Sunday: Next Sunday, we will explore Nehemiah 8:1-10, a powerful moment in Israel's history when God's Word is read aloud to the people, renewing their hearts and spirits. As Ezra reads from the Law, the people respond with reverence and joy, rediscovering the strength and comfort found in God's Word. This passage invites us to reflect on the importance of gathering around Scripture, both as individuals and as a community. Join us next week as we consider how God's Word restores and strengthens us for faithful living.

Learning with Littles: Our first Learning with Littles session of the spring semester, "Winter Fun," was held this past Friday. We welcomed 12 little ones, and it was a blessing to see the joy and excitement as we learned, played, and connected together. Thank you to everyone who prayed for this outreach opportunity. Please continue to keep this program in your prayers as we look forward to our next session on February 14th. May the Lord continue to use this time to bring joy, connection, and His love to the families who attend.

Church Work Day – Thank You: A big thank you to everyone who helped at our church work day yesterday! Your hard work and joyful service are a beautiful reflection of God’s love in action. What a blessing it is to serve together as the body of Christ!

CLC Call News: Ms. Blair Sydow has received and accepted the call to continue serving as the full time upper grade teacher at Holy Trinity Lutheran School, West Columbia, SC. <> Pastor Paul Krause of Trinity Lutheran Church and School, Watertown, SD and Zion Lutheran Church, Hidewood Township, SD has received the call to St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School, Mountain View, CA. <> Sam Naumann of Eau Claire, WI has received the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO. <> Teacher Claire Abbas of Berea Lutheran School, Inver Grove Heights, MN has received the call to Trinity Lutheran School, Watertown, SD.

Fruits of Faith		January 19, 2025		Attendance: WH – 32	
<u>Immanuel Lutheran Church</u>		<u>Church of the Lutheran Confession</u>			
<i>General Budget</i>		<i>General Budget</i>			
\$410.00	General Budget	\$0.00	CLC General Budget		
\$1,500.00	Weekly Need	\$67.31	Weekly Need		
-\$1,090.00	-Under / +Over	-\$67.31	-Under / +Over		
\$3,827.00	Year to Date Offerings	\$0.00	Year to Date Offerings		
\$4,500.00	Year to Date Need	\$201.93	Year to Date Need		
-\$673.00	Year to Date (+/-)	-\$201.93	Year to Date (+/-)		
<i>Non-Budgetary</i>		<i>Non-Budgetary</i>			
	Building Fund		ILC Student Aid Fund		
\$50.00	Property Improvement		ILC Building Fund		
\$50.00	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 ✠

January 27 – February 1

Monday: Matthew 4:12-17 – When John is imprisoned, Jesus takes up the call to repentance and begins His ministry. He makes His headquarters in Capernaum, proclaims the kingdom of heaven, and the light shines!

Tuesday: Romans 8:1-4 – Upon those in the shadow of death the light now shines in Christ Jesus, for through Him we have been set free from the law of sin and death (verse 2). He took on our flesh to bear our condemnation (verse 3).

Wednesday: Romans 8:5-11 – The fleshly mind is hostile to God, does not want to please Him, and leads to the darkness of death. But the spiritual mind knows of the resurrection in Jesus and walks to life and peace (verse 6).

Thursday: Genesis 15:1-7 – The LORD promises Abram countless descendants when he has yet to see the first one, but Abram believes the LORD, that He is truly his shield from all danger and his very great reward!

Friday: Amos 3:1-8 – Seven questions the LORD asks His people. They can understand a lot of things in God's creation. Should they not also understand that the LORD means it when He speaks condemnation and salvation?

Saturday: Acts 8:26-39 – The Lord reaches out to an Ethiopian through His servants Isaiah and Philip, and the Light shines for this official on the desert road to Gaza. Baptized, he continues on his way rejoicing!