

...and that rock was Christ.



1 Corinthians 10:4, NIV



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As We Gather

God has richly blessed His people—He fed Israel with manna from heaven, led them through the sea, and satisfied their thirst from the rock. Yet they craved more and fell into idolatry. In today’s reading from 1 Corinthians 10, the Apostle Paul warns us not to repeat their mistakes. Temptation is real, and so is the danger of overconfidence. But we are not without hope. God is faithful. He provides a way out, and more than that—He gives us Christ, the true Bread of Life and our Rock of salvation. As we gather today, we repent of misplaced cravings and rejoice in the One who satisfies every need, forgives every sin, and strengthens us to stand.

✠ Preparation for Worship ✠

Hymn

395 (1-2, 4, 7-8) – O God, Thou Faithful God

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, during this season of repentance, we recall how the Israelites were blessed by God—baptized into Moses, fed with spiritual food and drink—yet many fell into sin. Their example warns us not to take God’s gifts for granted.

Let us examine our hearts. Have we misused God’s blessings? Given in to temptation? Grumbled in discontent or put God to the test?

Our faithful Lord calls us to repent and promises forgiveness through Christ. Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

- C** **Almighty God, We confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. You have richly provided for us, yet we have not always received Your gifts with thanksgiving. We have misused Your blessings and given in to temptation. We have murmured like Israel in the wilderness. We have not stood firm in faith, and we have trusted in ourselves rather than in You. For the sake of Jesus Christ, who was tempted yet without sin, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may resist temptation and walk in the strength of Your grace. Amen.**

P Hear the Word of the Lord: “God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape.” That way of escape is Jesus Christ, who bore our sins in His body on the tree.

Upon this your confession, I, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, announce the grace of God unto you. In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

✠ The Service of the Word ✠

Introit

Psalm 5:4-8

P For You are not a God who takes pleasure in wickedness,

C Nor shall evil dwell with You.

P The boastful shall not stand in Your sight;

C You hate all workers of iniquity.

P You shall destroy those who speak falsehood;

C The LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.

P But as for me, I will come into Your house in the multitude of Your mercy;

C In fear of You I will worship toward Your holy temple.

P Lead me, O LORD, in Your righteousness because of my enemies;

C Make Your way straight before my face.

P Glory be to the Father and to the Son

C and to the Holy Spirit;

P as it was in the beginning,

C is now, and will be forever. Amen.

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



Glo - ry to God, we give you thanks and praise; Of
Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son, You
A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord, At



heav'n - ly joy and peace on earth we sing. We wor - ship
bore for us the load of this world's sin. O Lamb of
God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high: Who, with the



You, to You our hearts we raise, Lord God, al -
God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won, Re - ceive our
Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored, With all the



might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

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

Ezekiel 33:7-20

⁷ “So you, son of man: I have made you a watchman for the house of Israel; therefore you shall hear a word from My mouth and warn them for Me.

⁸ When I say to the wicked, ‘O wicked man, you shall surely die!’ and you

do not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹ Nevertheless if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have delivered your soul. ¹⁰ “Therefore you, O son of man, say to the house of Israel: ‘Thus you say, “If our transgressions and our sins lie upon us, and we pine away in them, how can we then live?” ’ ¹¹ Say to them: ‘As I live,’ says the Lord GOD, ‘I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die, O house of Israel?’ ¹² “Therefore you, O son of man, say to the children of your people: ‘The righteousness of the righteous man shall not deliver him in the day of his transgression; as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall because of it in the day that he turns from his wickedness; nor shall the righteous be able to live because of his righteousness in the day that he sins.’ ¹³ When I say to the righteous that he shall surely live, but he trusts in his own righteousness and commits iniquity, none of his righteous works shall be remembered; but because of the iniquity that he has committed, he shall die. ¹⁴ Again, when I say to the wicked, ‘You shall surely die,’ if he turns from his sin and does what is lawful and right, ¹⁵ if the wicked restores the pledge, gives back what he has stolen, and walks in the statutes of life without committing iniquity, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ¹⁶ None of his sins which he has committed shall be remembered against him; he has done what is lawful and right; he shall surely live. ¹⁷ “Yet the children of your people say, ‘The way of the LORD is not fair.’ But it is their way which is not fair! ¹⁸ When the righteous turns from his righteousness and commits iniquity, he shall die because of it. ¹⁹ But when the wicked turns from his wickedness and does what is lawful and right, he shall live because of it. ²⁰ Yet you say, ‘The way of the LORD is not fair.’ O house of Israel, I will judge every one of you according to his own ways.”

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 85

- P** LORD, You have been favorable to Your land;
- C** **You have brought back the captivity of Jacob.**
- P** You have forgiven the iniquity of Your people;
- C** **You have covered all their sin.**
- P** You have taken away all Your wrath;
- C** **You have turned from the fierceness of Your anger.**
- P** Restore us, O God of our salvation,
- C** **And cause Your anger toward us to cease.**
- P** Will You be angry with us forever?
- C** **Will You prolong Your anger to all generations?**

- P** Will You not revive us again,
C **That Your people may rejoice in You?**
P Show us Your mercy, LORD,
C **And grant us Your salvation.**
P I will hear what God the LORD will speak, For He will speak peace To His people and to His saints;
C **But let them not turn back to folly.**
P Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him,
C **That glory may dwell in our land.**
P Mercy and truth have met together;
C **Righteousness and peace have kissed.**
P Truth shall spring out of the earth,
C **And righteousness shall look down from heaven.**
P Yes, the LORD will give what is good;
C **And our land will yield its increase.**
P Righteousness will go before Him,
C **And shall make His footsteps our pathway.**

Gospel Reading

Luke 13:1-9

¹ There were present at that season some who told Him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ² And Jesus answered and said to them, “Do you suppose that these Galileans were worse sinners than all other Galileans, because they suffered such things? ³ I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish. ⁴ Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them, do you think that they were worse sinners than all other men who dwelt in Jerusalem? ⁵ I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish.” ⁶ He also spoke this parable: “A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. ⁷ Then he said to the keeper of his vineyard, ‘Look, for three years I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree and find none. Cut it down; why does it use up the ground?’ ⁸ But he answered and said to him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and fertilize it. ⁹ And if it bears fruit, well. But if not, after that you can cut it down.’ ”

Response

- P** Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.
C **Amen.**

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

144 – Jesus, Grant that Balm and Healing

Sermon Text

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

¹ Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, ² all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³ all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ. ⁵ But with most of them God was not well pleased, for their bodies were scattered in the wilderness. ⁶ Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted. ⁷ And do not become idolaters as were some of them. As it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.” ⁸ Nor let us commit sexual immorality, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell; ⁹ nor let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed by serpents; ¹⁰ nor complain, as some of them also complained, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹ Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. ¹² Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. ¹³ No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.



Sermon

What's the Deal with Eating and Drinking

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. Restore to me the joy of Your sal -
va - tion. Up - hold with Your Spir-it free.

Hymn

517 – The Will of God Is Always Best

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

376 – Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

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✠ Announcements ✠

March 23	8:00 am	Worship Service (Orlando)
	9:15 am	Sunday School
	10:15 am	Worship Service (Winter Haven)
March 26	2:00 pm	Midweek Lenten Worship Service
March 28	10:30 am	Learning with Littles
March 30	9:15 am	Sunday School/Bible Class
	10:15 am	Worship Service
April 2	2:00 pm	Midweek Lenten Worship Service
April 6	9:15 am	Sunday School/Bible Class
	10:15 am	Worship Service w/ Holy Communion
	11:30 am	Quarterly Voters' Meeting/Ladies' Meeting

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

- **April 6** – Quarterly Voters' Meeting/Ladies' Meeting
- **May 4** – Education/Elders
- **June 1** – Trustees/Church Council

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. May the Lord strengthen their faith, grant them His peace, and assure them of His abiding presence.

Looking Forward to Next Sunday: Have you ever been so overwhelmed with joy that you just had to sing? That's the kind of joy Isaiah describes in our sermon text for next Sunday, Isaiah 12:1-6. After proclaiming God's judgment, Isaiah bursts forth with a song of praise—because the Lord has turned His anger away and brought comfort and salvation instead. This good news isn't just for Isaiah's time; it's for us too! In Christ, we have every reason to rejoice, give thanks, and sing aloud. Join us next Sunday as we reflect on God's gracious salvation and how it moves us to lift our voices in joyful praise. The theme of the sermon will be: "Makes You Want to Sing!" We look forward to seeing you there!

Lenten Series: A Lent to Remember: As we enter the season of Lent, we invite you to join us for our special midweek services under the theme "A Lent to Remember." Throughout this penitential season, we will reflect on the power of remembrance—God's remembrance of His promises, our remembrance of His mercy, and Christ's call to remember His sacrifice for us.

Each week, we will focus on a different aspect of remembrance as revealed in Scripture:

- **Midweek 4 (March 26)** – *Remember the Covenant* (Psalm 105:8)
- **Midweek 5 (April 2)** – *Remember Sins No More* (Jeremiah 31:34)
- **Midweek 6 (April 9)** – *Remember Steadfast Love* (Psalm 98:3)
- **Maundy Thursday (April 17)** – *Remembrance of Me* (1 Corinthians 11:23–26)
- **Good Friday (April 18)** – *Remember Me* (Luke 23:39–43)

Service Times:

- Wednesday Services: 2:00 PM
- Maundy Thursday & Good Friday: 7:00 PM

Join us each week as we set our hearts and minds on the remembrance that leads us to the foot of the cross and the empty tomb.

Learning with Littles – Special Request: For our next session on March 28, we’re looking to borrow 12 baskets and two realistic-looking fake fish as visual aids for our Bible lesson on Jesus feeding the 5,000. If you can help, please let us know—thank you!

Fruits of Faith		March 16, 2025	Attendance: WH – 52	
<u>Immanuel Lutheran Church</u>		<u>Church of the Lutheran Confession</u>		
<i>General Budget</i>		<i>General Budget</i>		
\$587.00	General Budget	\$0.00	CLC General Budget	
\$1,500.00	Weekly Need	\$67.31	Weekly Need	
-\$913.00	-Under / +Over	-\$67.31	-Under / +Over	
\$14,732.00	Year to Date Offerings	\$400.00	Year to Date Offerings	
\$16,500.00	Year to Date Need	\$740.41	Year to Date Need	
-\$1,768.00	Year to Date (+/-)	-\$340.41	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)	
\$40.00	Benevolence Fund		Project Kinship	
	Outreach		ILC Tour Choir	
	School Fund		Spokesman/Daily Rest	

✠ Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions ✠

March 24 – March 29, 2025

Monday – *Psalm 22:1-11*

A psalm that was on our Savior's mind as He hung on the cross. While enemies see Him as rejected by God (v. 8), He still looks to God for help in the deepest distress, and calls to Him – My God!

Tuesday – *John 10:23-38*

The Jews gather around Jesus, asking if He is the Christ, but do not believe it when He tells them. They pick up stones to kill Him, and He answers: at least believe the Father's works which I do.

Wednesday – *Psalm 22:12-21*

Evil men surround the Savior like wild animals, and His strength is drained as they divide His garments (v. 18). Still He looks to the LORD, His heavenly Father, for strength and for deliverance.

Thursday – *2 Corinthians 4:7-14*

The apostle's treasure, the knowledge of God's glory in Christ, is his only help in the face of every distress, persecution, and death. But its power is from God (v. 7), and equal to the task!

Friday – *Psalm 22:22-31*

Hanging on the cross, the Savior knew He would be delivered from every distress, and that the Lord's kingship would prevail. Rich and poor would praise the LORD for His gift of righteousness.

Saturday – *Exodus 2:11-15*

Moses was weaned by his own mother and raised as the son of Pharaoh's daughter, but that does not make him ruler of Israel or Egypt. His attempt ends in "exile" in Midian.

