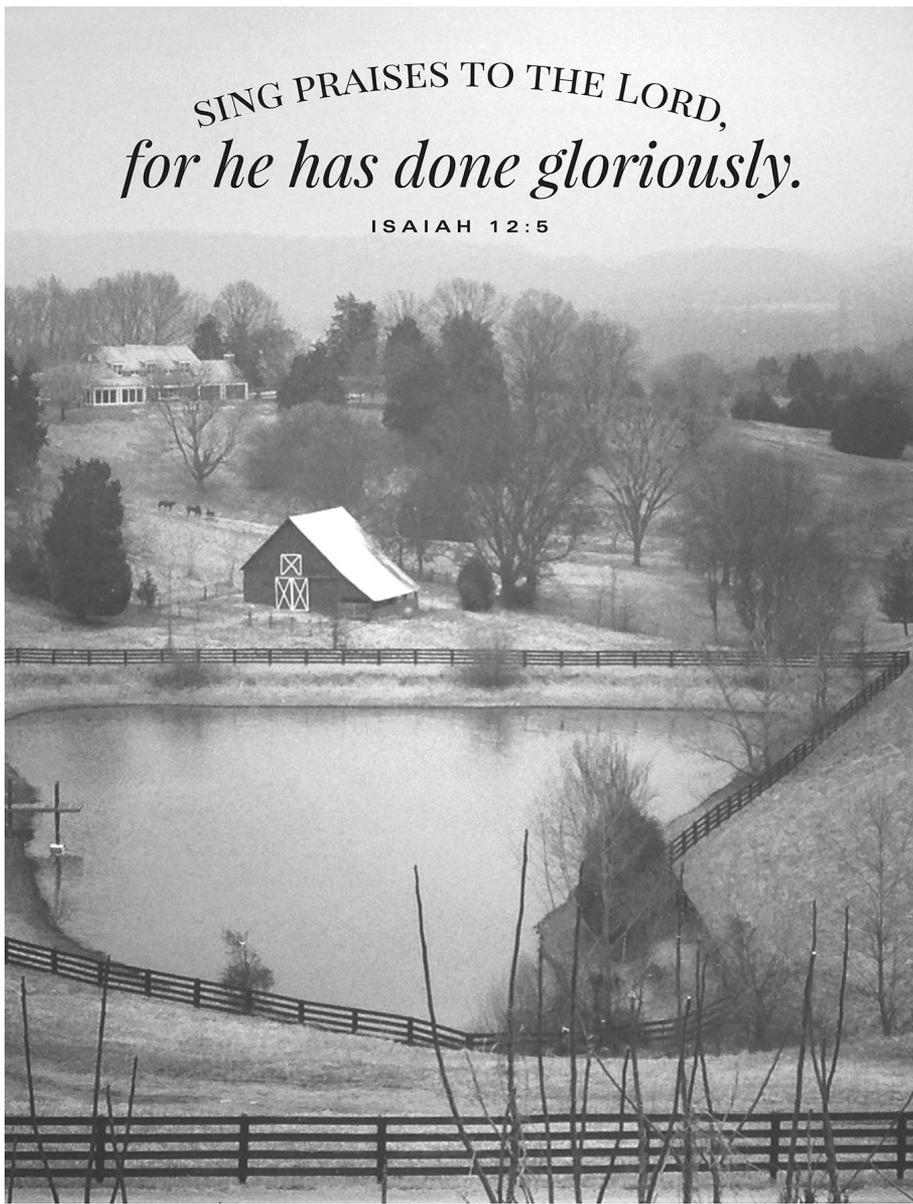


SING PRAISES TO THE LORD,
for he has done gloriously.

ISAIAH 12:5



Immanuel Lutheran Church & School

1449 34th Street NW, Winter Haven, FL 33881

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As We Gather

Today, we join Isaiah in singing a surprising song—one that rises not from peace and plenty, but from the ashes of judgment and guilt. Isaiah 12 invites us to marvel at a God who once was angry, but whose wrath has now been turned away. We sing not because life is easy, but because salvation is real. In the midst of brokenness, God Himself becomes our strength, our song, and our salvation. This song doesn't wait for the storm to pass—it's born in the middle of it. And it's one we're called to share, because the Holy One of Israel is in our midst.

✠ Preparation for Worship ✠

Hymn

773 – Rise, Shine, You People!

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, we come into the presence of our gracious God, who is merciful and abounding in steadfast love. As we prepare to hear His Word and rejoice in His salvation, let us first humble ourselves before Him and confess our sins.

C **Lord God, I confess that I have too often lived as though I have no reason to sing. I have forgotten the joy of Your salvation. I have gone my own way, like the prodigal son, seeking happiness apart from You. I have failed to love others as You have loved me, and I have trusted in my own righteousness rather than Your grace. I am sorry for my sins and for the times I have taken Your mercy for granted. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and restore to me the joy of Your salvation.**

P Hear the good news of your God! Though you were far off, your heavenly Father has run to meet you in His mercy. Though you were lost, you have been found. Though you were dead in sin, you are now made alive in Christ. 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 51:2-6

- P** Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
C **And cleanse me from my sin.**
P For I acknowledge my transgressions,
C **And my sin is always before me.**
P Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done this evil in Your sight—
C **That You may be found just when You speak, And blameless when You judge.**
P Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
C **And in sin my mother conceived me.**
P Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts,
C **And in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom.**

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.

Gloria 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.

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

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

¹⁶ Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him thus no longer. ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. ¹⁸ Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, ¹⁹ that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. ²⁰ Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 32

- P** Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven,
- C** **Whose sin is covered.**
- P** Blessed is the man to whom the LORD does not impute iniquity,
- C** **And in whose spirit there is no deceit.**
- P** When I kept silent, my bones grew old
- C** **Through my groaning all the day long.**
- P** For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me;
- C** **My vitality was turned into the drought of summer.**
- P** I acknowledged my sin to You, And my iniquity I have not hidden.
- C** **I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**
- P** For this cause everyone who is godly shall pray to You In a time when You may be found;
- C** **Surely in a flood of great waters They shall not come near him.**
- P** You are my hiding place; You shall preserve me from trouble;
- C** **You shall surround me with songs of deliverance.**
- P** I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
- C** **I will guide you with My eye.**
- P** Do not be like the horse or like the mule, Which have no understanding,
- C** **Which must be harnessed with bit and bridle, Else they will not come near you.**
- P** Many sorrows shall be to the wicked;
- C** **But he who trusts in the LORD, mercy shall surround him.**
- P** Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, you righteous;
- C** **And shout for joy, all you upright in heart!**

Gospel Reading

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

¹ Then all the tax collectors and the sinners drew near to Him to hear Him.
² And the Pharisees and scribes complained, saying, “This Man receives sinners and eats with them.” ³ So He spoke this parable to them, saying:
¹¹ “A certain man had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.’ So he divided to them his livelihood. ¹³ And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. ¹⁴ But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. ¹⁵ Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. ¹⁶ And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ “But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! ¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, ¹⁹ and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants.”’ ²⁰ “And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. ²¹ And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²² “But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. ²³ And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; ²⁴ for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ And they began to be merry. ²⁵ “Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷ And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.’ ²⁸ “But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him. ²⁹ So he answered and said to his father, ‘Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends. ³⁰ But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.’ ³¹ “And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. ³² It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.’ ”

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

360 – Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Sermon Text

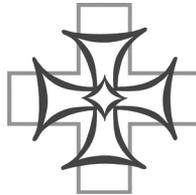
Isaiah 12

¹ And in that day you will say: “O LORD, I will praise You; Though You were angry with me, Your anger is turned away, and You comfort me. ² Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; ‘For YAH, the LORD, is my strength and song; He also has become my salvation.’ ” ³ Therefore with joy you will draw water From the wells of salvation. ⁴ And in that day you will say: “Praise the LORD, call upon His name; Declare His deeds among the peoples, Make mention that His name is exalted. ⁵ Sing to the LORD, For He has done excellent things; This is known in all the earth. ⁶ Cry out and shout, O inhabitant of Zion, For great is the Holy One of Israel in your midst!”



Sermon

Makes You Want to Sing



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.

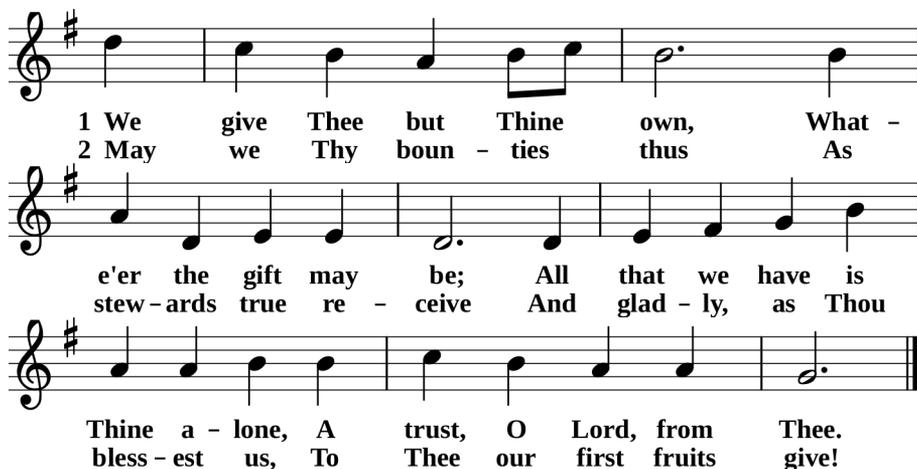
Hymn

19 (1-4) – All Praise to God, Who Reigns Above

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.
bles - 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

428 – I am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus

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✠ Announcements ✠

Upcoming Schedule

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
April 9	2:00 pm	Midweek Lenten Worship Service
April 11	10:30 am	Learning with Littles
April 13	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:

- **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: Next Sunday, we’ll hear the Lord speak through the prophet Isaiah with a powerful reminder: our God is always doing something new—even in this weary, broken world. In Isaiah 43:16-21, God points back to His mighty acts of deliverance but quickly turns our eyes forward: “Do not remember the former things... Behold, I will do a new thing!” In Christ, He’s already begun it—bringing life where there was death, hope where there was despair. Join us as we rejoice in the God who makes a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. His grace isn’t just for the past—it’s alive and active today. Come and see how God’s “new thing” transforms our lives in this old world!

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 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.

Church Work Day – April 12: We'll be holding a church work day on Saturday, April 12, starting at 9:00 AM. Come lend a hand—even an hour or two is a big help!

Easter Lilies for Easter Sunday: We invite you to help beautify our sanctuary for Easter Sunday by purchasing an Easter lily in honor or memory of a loved one. Each lily is \$12. If you would like to participate, please sign up at the back of church by April 13.

Learning with Littles – Easter Bag Donations Needed: Our next Learning with Littles session is coming up on Friday, April 11, and we're putting together special Easter bags for the children to enjoy! We're aiming to assemble about 30 bags for children ages 4 and under, and we'd love your help.

We're looking for both food and non-food items to fill the bags. Some suggestions include:

- **Food items:** fruit snacks, Cutie oranges, granola bars, Goldfish crackers, Easter-themed chocolate or candy
- **Non-food items:** small containers of Play-Doh, mini slinkies, bubbles, stickers, sticky hands, toy cars, hair bows, pop-its, slap bracelets

Thank you for supporting this outreach and helping us share the love of Jesus with young children and their families in our community!

Fruits of Faith		March 23, 2025	Attendance: WH – 33; ORL – 11	
<u>Immanuel Lutheran Church</u>		<u>Church of the Lutheran Confession</u>		
<i>General Budget</i>		<i>General Budget</i>		
\$1,217.00	General Budget	\$55.00	CLC General Budget	
\$1,500.00	Weekly Need	\$67.31	Weekly Need	
-\$283.00	-Under / +Over	-\$12.31	-Under / +Over	
\$15,949.00	Year to Date Offerings	\$455.00	Year to Date Offerings	
\$18,000.00	Year to Date Need	\$807.72	Year to Date Need	
-\$2,051.00	Year to Date (+/-)	-\$352.72	Year to Date (+/-)	
<i>Non-Budgetary</i>		<i>Non-Budgetary</i>		
	Building Fund	\$5.00	ILC Student Aid Fund	
\$5.00	Property Improvement		ILC Building Fund	
\$100.00	ILC Scholarship Fund		ILC Improvement Fund	
\$5.00	Tuition Grant		Mission Development (MDF)	
\$50.00	Benevolence Fund		Project Kinship	
	Outreach		ILC Tour Choir	
	School Fund		Spokesman/Daily Rest	

✠ Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions ✠

March 31 – April 5, 2025

Monday – *John 11:1-16*

When Jesus hears that Lazarus is sick, He does not immediately go to help. This does not mean that He lacks love, but that He has greater understanding than we, His followers, do.

Tuesday – *John 11:17-27*

Four days in the tomb, decaying – this is not too great a problem for the Resurrection and the Life. Such is the glory of the Christ, the Son of God who was to come into the world (vv. 4, 27).

Wednesday – *2 Corinthians 5:14-21*

Since Christ died for all, all died, and His resurrection declares that we are also reconciled to God. Christ became sin for us that we might become righteousness in Him (v. 21).

Thursday – *Isaiah 64:1-4*

Because enemies trample the sanctuary, Isaiah calls upon God to descend with power and rescue His people, both from their earthly foes and from His own just judgment upon their sins.

Friday – *Isaiah 64:5-12*

Even on the cross Jesus never stopped looking to God for help. Isaiah also, admitting guilt, still looks to God for mercy. Do not be angry, Lord, without limit, or remember our guilt forever (v. 9).

Saturday – *Exodus 3:1-14*

The LORD comes to Moses in a burning bush at a time when Moses no longer thinks he can deliver the Israelites from Egypt. God says: This is My time, and I will be with you!

